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Poetry.

For the Blade.

THE ROBIN'S SONG.

STOKELY S. FISHER.

The robins sing on the naked bough,
Near last year's nest-full of memories,
A song of love and the long ago—
So dear, but sad as the leafless trees!
The planet of spring the birds repeat:
"Dearest, darling, dearest-sweet!"

A maiden lists at the open door,
A tear on her lashes shines in the sun.
Does she think of one who will come no more?
All learn that love has an undertone
The infinite longings of life to repeat:
"Dearest, darling, dearest-sweet!"

A song of love too rudely crossed,
Full of tears, with yearning wild;
A soul's lament for the loved and lost,
Like a mother's thoughts of her buried child—
A song with patient despair replete:
"Dearest, darling, dearest-sweet!"

A song of love in a world of death;
A holy fire that will burn alway,
Though hands must part with the passing breath;
Pathetic hopes of perennial May
When darkness passes and spirits meet:
"Dearest, darling, dearest sweet!"

A song of love for a mate that's dead,—
Anguish, too deep to be rude or loud,
From a heart forever disquieted,
Jarred by the jostling, jesting crowd;—
A song whose hope is that years must fleet:
"Dearest, darling, dearest-sweet!"

Every song some soft note mourns
The fear or fact of an empty nest!
On naked boughs, when spring returns,
The robins express the unexpress'd—
How many emotions their songs repeat!
"Dearest, darling, dearest-sweet!"

For the Blade.

FIRELIGHT FANCIES.

I am sitting to-night by my hearthstone,
The fire has smouldered low,
But I stir the peri-hing embers,
And catch their dying glow.

When, out from the dim, deep shadows,
Strange visions come to me;
Scenes from the vanished life-past,
Tossed on the surging sea.

Youth sends its golden echoes
From the land of laughter and song;
Ah, the faces, the merry faces,
That to-night my fireside throng!

Now there are words in the moonlight,
And now the blush of a bride,
Then the voices of little children,
And a mother's matronly pride.

The years, with their ghostly mem'ries,
Glide on through the darkened room,
Now cheering my heart with their presence,
Now casting a deeper gloom.

I strive to detain the phantoms,
But, alas, they have quickly fled.
The spell has passed beyond me,
And lo! my fire is dead.

IDA ESTELLA CROUCH.

Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Written for the Blade.

ONLY JUST ONE!

C. LESLIE OWEN.

Only just one! the tempter smiles;
That smile a soul has cost;
The wanderer listens to his wiles,
And is forever lost.

Only just one! the comrade pleads,
That one no harm can be.
Ah! just that one to ruin leads—
To dread eternity.

Only just one! conscience inquires,
If I can one control.
Ah! trust it not. Its raging fires
May scorch thy very soul.

Only just one! but ah! that one!
That one beginning drink,
May soon its course of ruin run—
Another manhood sink.

Only just one! no one can know—
No tongue would dare to tell,
The depths of misery and woe,
Or souls cast into hell.

Only just one! but oh! if we
Could know what it has done,
Our souls might cry in agony,
God help us shun that one!

Miscellany.

GOSSIP ABOUT ROYALTY.

Orleans Was Perplexed.

The duc d'Orleans changed his cravat three times a day on board the steamer that brought the distinguished party up the James river to Richmond, incited thereto by the presence of two blonde young ladies of that town, who were passengers on the same boat. Etiquette required that the young nobleman make no acquaintance with the fair sex on that trip, though the young persons played the "Boulanger March," the "Marseillaise" and "Down Goes McGinty" all day long on the wheezy piano to attract his attention.

But when he got to Richmond he showed himself the man of occasion by becoming acquainted with a *Times* reporter, of whom he inquired their names and addresses. The young ladies, as fate would have it, lived on a street through which the party had to pass en route to the battlefields. So the next morning they were on their veranda in becoming costumes to greet the party as they rode by. The duke was enchanted to be recognized, and that night, like any other sensible young man, appeared with the reporter to call in person on his fair admirers. From that hour until he left Richmond he was missing from the paternal charge. He cared not for battlefields or relics or past associations, nor, indeed, for his fair fiancee, who had proved her faithful love during his imprisonment.

If there had been one instead of two Misses Ey——, the politics of France might have been revolutionized, but it seems that he could not decide where his affections lay, because t'other dear charmer was never away.

"Do not call me your royal highness," he was heard to plead. "Call me Duc." Could this request be construed as equivalent to an offer of marriage from a common person? He was missing at mass at the cathedral Sunday morning; he was opposed to accompanying the party to see the crater at Petersburg. He escaped unmarried, but it is universally granted not heart whole. We speak of this bit of gossip in a trifling way, but it may have serious consequences; at least all Virginia is on the qui vive on the subject and expecting another international marriage if only the heir of the Bourbons can decide which of the sisters he prefers, for we cannot believe either would hesitate to sacrifice herself for the glory of her country.

King Otto Surprised.

She was a wealthy matron from Denver, young and handsome, just returned from "a little run" on the other side. She had brought back with her, only partially quieted, that breezy western way which ruffles plumes when it blows freshly and wholesomely through the halls of the effete monarchies. She was describing her visit to one of the famous but tumble-down castles of the late lamented Ludwig, the mad king of Bavaria, which are now open to the public as show places.

When she entered the first of the state apartments she came face to face with a tall flunky in a most imposing uniform, who moved toward her waiving his arms and proclaiming impressively:

"*Alle mussen ausgehen!*" Everybody must get out of here!

The Denver woman didn't take kindly to departure, for the custodians of Ludwig's architectural follies charge good-sized admission fees. Waved imperiously through the doorway, she essayed a second room. Here, too, the flunky followed on her footsteps with his:

"*Alle mussen ausgehen.*"

This time the Denver woman stood her ground. Advancing upon the flunky, she began: "I bought my ticket, and I am an American citizen!" Here she paused, for the flunky betrayed signs of nervousness and looked around.

"*Alle mussen ausgehen!*" It was said with a note of anxiety. The flunky's eyes never left the door.

"In my country——"

"*Alle mussen ausgehen*" the flunky quivered, he almost groaned.

"St. 's a thing could not——"

"Me.. Gott," interrupted the flunky, "she will not go!" And he wrung his hands.

"At the moment," says the Denver woman, "I saw a nice white-haired man coming down the room with a lady on his arm. There was a man in front of him and several people behind, and it looked like a little procession.

"Sir," said I, and I walked straight up to the gentleman and spoke my best German, 'if you are one of the directors won't you include in your report of your inspection this outrage? My friend and I'—and I pointed out the lady with me—'have paid our money, and now this servant tells us to leave. We are Americans, and are used to seeing things better managed.'

"All this time the flunky stood first on one foot and then on the other, and seemed to be in pain. The white-haired gentleman looked confused and, I thought sorry, and he said:

"'Ladies, you are cheerfully welcome; stay as long as you choose.'

"Then the little procession went forward and the flunky let us alone. But our pleasure had been spoiled and we left almost immediately. At the foot of the stairs, do you know, the porter told us that the pleasant, gentlemanly director was King Otto, of Bavaria. But I didn't disturb myself about it greatly, for it didn't hurt him to be told that other people, especially ladies, shouldn't be so hustled about just because he was taking a promenade."

A Faithful Sentry.

The oft-told story of Napoleon and the sentinel repeated itself in a curious manner a short time ago at Laeken, the favorite residence of the king and queen of the Belgians. Shortly after dusk the queen, accompanied by her favorite dogs, started on foot to meet the king on his return from the Ardennes. The moon was rising, and when she reached the end of the park, she was abruptly challenged by a sentinel, who demanded the pass word. Her majesty had omitted to provide herself with it, but told the sentry who she was, and asked to be allowed to proceed. The man politely but firmly declined, and the queen was compelled to remain where she was until the officer of the guard was fetched, when she was of course immediately released. The soldier on coming off guard was unmercifully chaffed by his comrades for his temerity, but the laugh was soon turned against them, for when the officer on duty returned from dining with the king and queen, he called the trembling sentry, and told him that his strict obedience to orders was rewarded with 50 francs from the queen, a week's leave, and promotion to the rank of corporal. Strange to say, the whole of his companions who had unanimously condemned him now swear that neither king, queen, nor prince shall ever pass at Laeken without the countersign.

"The Grandfather of the Russian Navy."

Peter the Great traveled to Holland in search of knowledge and the mechanic arts.

Here learning also how to build boats, he returned to Russia and constructed with his own hands the big four-bowed whaleboat which has been dubbed "the grandfather of the Russian navy," and from which spring literally the first great fleet of Russia.

In visiting St. Petersburg to-day you are shown Peter's cottage, built of round logs and painted red, the palace that he built in 1703, and from which he superintended the building of his new capital. It contains only two rooms and a kitchen, their combined size being about 55 feet by 20 feet in breadth.

The bed-room on the left, in which he also dined, has been converted into a chapel of the Russian-Greek faith and is often crowded with worshippers, who are attracted by an ikon of the Saviour, which accompanied Peter in his battles and effected the discomfiture of Charles XII. at the famous battle of Poltava. A substantial house has been erected over this historic cottage and the whaleboat of Peter, together with the rude bench on which he sat are also preserved here.

Story of the Empress Frederick.

The Prince of Wales is not the only one of his mother's children who knows how to assert himself. The Empress Frederick is ordinarily the most affable and unaffected of royalties, yet nobody understands better how to give dignified rebuke when occasion requires it. Some ten years ago, when, as crown princess, she was spending the winter at Peigi, on the Reviera, with her three daughters, they were in the habit of making excursions almost daily, traveling by train and taking their places among the other passengers in any carriage where they found places.

On one of these occasions a Frenchman, who happened to find himself in the same compartment with them, being ignorant—or affecting ignorance—of the rank of his fellow travelers, was proceeding to light a cigar, in accordance with the universal custom on that line, but before doing so he turned to the princess and politely inquired: "Does madam object to the smell of smoke?"

"I do not know the smell, sir. Nobody has ever presumed to smoke in my presence," was the crushing reply.

THE VIOLIN SOMERSAULT.

A Slack-Rope Trick That Catches London—The Tight-rope Craze.

London's new craze is for performances on tight ropes, slack-ropes, wires and other contrivances for daring deeds on a thread of support across a sea of space. All the London music halls and public places of amusement, like the Crystal Palace and the Royal Aquarium, include an entertainment by a skilled balancist on the rope or wire, and the spectators regard it as the plum of the programme. Similar performances are common enough in the United States, but then the same class of people do not frequent music halls in America as in England.

In England the great and eminently respectable middle class—an army of well-fed, well-clothed millions—likes a free-and-easy style of amusement, where beer and tobacco can be enjoyed during the singing of a lively song or the antics of an acrobat. The comfortable trader of London or Manchester takes his wife and his daughters to the music hall and does not mind rubbing shoulders with 'Arry and 'Arriet as he passes by them to more expensive seats, managers of English music halls see that the strictest propriety of language is preserved by performers and spectators alike.

At present in London it seems to be the sole ambition with the various wire and rope performers to discover an act or trick in their profession unique in its daring or peculiarity. At the Aquarium Zaeo gives a combination performance of diving into a net from the roof of the building, being fired from a cannon across the auditorium, and walking, kneeling and dancing on a wire rope of the thickness of a telegraph wire without any other balancing contrivance except her own beautifully shaped arms and legs.

This woman became famous, thanks to the efforts directed against her by the Society for the Promotion of Purity. The society had no word to say against her character or the decency of her performance, but it objected to the posters all over London, showing a young woman attired in a corset and close-fitting trunks and nothing else. Public opinion, however, did not back up the prudery of the society.

Aside from Zaeo, however, two male performers are now astonishing London with their slack-rope performance. A pair of brothers, dressed in skin-tight garments of red silk, spangled with gold, appear on two thin ropes stretched across hurdles a dozen feet or so from the floor of the stage. On these they dance, skip, turn double somersaults, stand on their heads and race up and down with the same ease and agility as though they were on terra firma.

One somersault, in particular, is marvelous in its dexterity. The brothers sit straddle on the ropes playing on violins. Then together they spring in the air, taking their entire impetus from the seat of the body, and without losing a note of the melody they keep scraping on the strings, and alight together again on the ropes.

Her Mind Was on Her Work.

"Who is that frightfully dressed woman that you just recognized?"

"That is Madam Prim, editor of a fashion magazine."—[Judge.

THE ATHLETIC YOUNG-WOMAN.

"I'LL SHOW BROTHER BOB THAT A GIRL CAN TRAIN FAITHFULLY."

"HERE'S THE VERY OPPORTUNITY I'VE LONGED FOR."

"I WISH BOB COULD SEE ME NOW."

"A MOUSE! OH, DEAR! OH, DEAR!"

THE BURGLAR—"IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR THE MOUSE I'D GOT TEN YEARS SURE."

ALLEGED HUMOR.

It gets late very early nowadays.

The dearest thing on earth—Christmas presents.

Jones—"Will Congress sit on Christmas day?"

Brown (innocently)—"What has Christmas ever done to Congress to be sat on?"

Slippers will be much used this winter. For grown-up persons the slippers will be according to the latest fall fashions on icy pavements. For naughty children the slippers will be felt.

It is not alone the business men who is happy in the anticipation of a good Christmas trade. The young woman expecting to trade a hand-painted, home-made card for a set of furs is feeling pretty joyous herself.

"De'ar sin' no doubt dat heaven's kind," such was the negro's song.
"For when de wafah million goes' the possum comes erlong."

In the storehouse where jolly Kris Kringle holds sway
The oddest of things may be noticed, they say.
No larger the elephant seems than the cat,
Who peacefully lies by the side of the rat.
The tin locomotive goes off on a lark
And has a collision with Noah's new ark;
But they say 'tis the funniest sight of them all
When the jumping-jack flirts with the flaxen-haired doll.

Disclaimed.

An old negro strolled up to the window in the office of the Kansas City, Kans., commissioner of registration the other day and made application for registration papers.

"What is your name?" asked Assistant Commissioner Arnold.

"George Washington," was the reply.

"Well, George, are you the man who cut down the cherry tree?"

"No, sah, boss, no, sah, I ain't de man. I ain't done no work fo'nigh onto a yeah."—[Kansas City Times.

Came in Handy for the Boy.

The shapely arm of a lady in very humble circumstances, in Saginaw, Mich., made her long to display them in a pair of 32-button gloves. She squeezed the price of them, after weeks of saving, from the money given her by her husband for household expenses. Two days after she purchased them she saw her little boy wearing them on his legs, out in the street, and they came above his knees.

Cooling.

"My object in calling this evening," he began, with a nervous trembling of his chin, "was to ask you, Katie—I may call you Katie, may I not?"

"Certainly, Mr. Longripe," said the sweet young girl. "All of papa's elderly friends call me Katie."

And he said nothing further about his object in calling.—[Spare Moments.

They Live to Eat.

The Natives of Tonquin—A Land But Little Explored.

One of the districts of the earth little or not at all explored is that part of the Indo-Chinese peninsula which is situated between the upper part of Uekheng and the coast of Annam. There is still a large field to be opened up to exploration and colonization.

The animals are dangerous to the traveler in Indo-China. The elephant is bigger and wilder than in India proper; he attacks his adversary as soon as he is approaching, while the elephant in Ceylon runs away. The tiger, too, is an awkward customer; he is more formidable than his Indian relative, and de-

A BENONG BEAUTY.

vours a good many men and domestic animals. But he is afraid of every white face; he fixes his eyes upon it, lashes his tail, draws back slowly first, and then runs away in a hurry.

Crocodiles are all much bigger than those which I saw in the White and Blue Nile, or the Ganges, writes a traveler. Leeches, ants and mosquitoes constantly molest the traveler. A very peculiar sea mammal—the dugong—is to be seen at the upper part of the Mekuong. The breast of the female is very similar to the breast of a woman. The dugong is supposed to have suggested the fabulous mermaid. They are caught for the sake of their oil, off the northern coasts of Australia.

The race of men is, on the whole, the same as in Cambodia and in Siam. The color of the skin varies from light to dark brown, the hair is curly, the eyes are horizontal. There are no ornaments worn except in the ears. The nose is rather well-shaped and the nasal

ANONG GIRL.

ridge is sunken. The lips are of ordinary shape, and are not fat and everted.

Education of any kind, even reading and writing, is perfectly unknown. Arithmetic is a riddle for them, and the people of Cambodia cheat them in a most awful way. They do not know any other amusements than those of the stomach. They live from hand to mouth. They only work when it is absolutely necessary. They like festivals and are very fond of *tinum-sihum* (rice liquor), particularly if they happen to get more victuals than usual.

Wild potatoes, which grow in large quantities in the woods, divers aromatic herbs, rice and Indian corn, hunting prey, and the flesh of their domestic animals constitute their own possessions. All other wants they obtain in exchange for skins, ivory, horns, etc., from the Cambodians, Annamites and Chinese—more especially tobacco, which all of them, men, women, and children, smoke passionately, metal, cloths—sometimes they make these themselves—ornaments, plates, glasses, pearls, etc. Their dress only covers their hips. The men often wear only a loin-cloth. The women are covered to the knees. The Nhongs and Anongs, the handsomest tribes of all, are very fond of pearls.

There or eight cottages of the Benong, Whong and Anong form a village. The roof of these cottages almost touches the ground. The inner part is furnished with bamboo and mats of sea-weed. Under the top of the roof is a corn-loft. The Benong is always afraid of being attacked by hostile tribes. He likes to build his lodging in the thickest wood; he makes a wall of bamboo round the village; he rams poisoned and pointed poles in the ground, which only those who know them can avoid, and he sleeps as a rule, inside the village, in order to be ready to fight.

Tremendous Force of Sea Waves.

Some idea of the power exerted by sea waves may be formed from the following facts: An iron column, 23 feet long and weighing 6,000 pounds—part of a lighthouse being built—was, in course of operation, landed at Bishop Rock, England, and, a storm coming up, was left lashed by a chain at each end to two strong eyebolts. Three days after, when the storm abated, it was found that the upper column had been moved a distance of twenty feet and landed on top of a projecting rock. A blacksmith's anvil weighing nearly 200 pounds, and sunk in a pit three and one-half feet deep, had been washed entirely out of the sink and landed near the column of iron above mentioned. It had been floated nearly 200 feet after being lifted out of the hole.

Not for the Masses.

A recent criticism upon Zola concerning his new novel, "L'Argent," may surprise some people who have thought that he wrote to the liking of the masses. "It is not Zola's destiny to be understood by the multitude," says the critic. "Where he has 1,000 readers Ohnet has 1,000,000 and Emil Richebourg has 10,000,000. The *Petit Journal* paid Richebourg 80,000 francs for the right to publish 'La Damen Noir' in its feuilleton. Gil Blas pays Zola 80,000 francs for the feuilleton of 'L'Argent.'"

Curious Census Facts.

It is a curious fact, revealed by the figures of the recent census, that, while there are in the United States three cities of more than 1,000,000 inhabitants each, one of between 800,000 and 900,000, three of between 400,000 and 500,000 each, and nine of between 200,000 and 300,000 each, there is not a single one having between 300,000 and 400,000 inhabitants. In 1890 we had but nine cities with a population of over 100,000 each.

Chinese Music.

The Chinese seem to have a very arbitrary way of fitting words to music. The voice frequently drops out before the end of the musical phrase, and enters quite as unexpectedly, while the melody flows on in the orchestra with endless repetitions, relieved occasionally by half a dozen bars in which all the melody instruments cease and the gongs, cymbals, drums and castanets play alone.

Novel Race.

A race between a postal card and a letter, one traveling East and the other West, from China to Maine, was started by Dr. John C. Berry, who is at present traveling in Asia. In Pekin he mailed both to Dr. R. D. Bibber, of Bath, Me. the card to travel Westward, by way of St. Petersburg, and the letter to go East, by way of San Francisco. They arrived at Bath in the same mail.

Our Serial Story.

Written for the Blade. Copyright, 1890.

A ROMANCE OF TWO BROTHERS.

BY EDGAR FAWCETT.

Author of "The Confessions of Claud," "An Ambitious Woman," "The Evil That Men Do," "A New York Family," Etc.

CHAPTER III.

She gave a great start when she saw him. "How could you be as mad as this?" she exclaimed. "Don't you know that you run the risk of killing yourself?"

"I run the risk of being killed by you," he said, with a voice bleak in itself yet sounding all the stranger because of those days of dumbness.

"By me!" she broke out shrilly. "What do you mean? But you mustn't answer—you mustn't speak, you must only go straight back to your bed."

"I will speak a little," he replied. "I will say this much, Georgiana: that I believe you've come in here while I was ill and stolen a certain flask. It's that I've been searching for. Render it up to me if you have it."

She changed color a little, and said coldly: "I don't at all understand you."

"Oh, yes, you do. Come, now; give me the flask. You dare not deny that

HE GRASPED HER BY THE HAND.

you have taken it. Nobody would have done so except yourself."

Her lip curled and she grew paler, "This is so senseless of you," she muttered. "How could I possibly know there was any flask that contained your elixir?"

"Ah!" he cried, "have I ever *referred* to the elixir? There spoke your own guilty conscience!" His anger made him look like some vengeful ghost. He raised one clenched hand. "You heard me talk in my delirium about that flask!" he went on, "or else you had spied on me during those days I worked so hard, after I had been fool enough to let you learn my secret. You don't want to have my death on your soul? No? Then get me the flask. Do not lose a moment—get it!" He went up to her and grasped her wrist as he ended. He was greatly incensed against her, and yet any personal roughness would have been impossible to such a man as he. That grasp of her wrist, and, perhaps, the sternness of accusation in his enkindled eyes as well, caused her to sink at his feet. He had made her afraid of him, and possibly he had stirred her conscience also. She was a woman with an immensity of conscience, though the tremulous words that she now addressed to him would have implied that she had been very far from violating one of its high and extremely mystic laws.

"I—I *can't* give you that flask," she stammered, there on her knees before him. "I—I *did* hear you rave about it when you were out of your mind with fever. For that reason I—I came here into this room—and found it."

"Found it!" he faltered, with both hands limply falling at his sides. "You mean that you—"

"Destroyed it, Egbert! Yes; I did destroy it." She rose and looked into his glassy eyes as though fearful that murder might be ambushed there.

"You—destroyed—it!" he gasped, receding from her. In an instant she saw that there was no danger of personal assault, and as he sank, breathing heavily, into a chair, she went close to his side.

"Egbert, I thought your trying to do any thing like that was a crime—a dreadful crime against God. He is all-merciful to us; if it had been His will that we should live an instant longer than we do naturally live, He would have given us His holy sanction. Only evil could have come of your discovery, which I believe your intellect quite able to have achieved. But Egbert, it was for your own good—for the sake of your salvation after death—for—"

The voice died in her throat. Her husband's eyes had closed, giving him literally the look of a corpse. "Get me back to bed," he murmured. "I have this frightful weakness, and this sense of—" he tried to pronounce the word "suffocation," and failed; yet in a few more seconds, and while both hands were pulling at the woolen stuff which clad his breast, he demanded with a good deal of vocal clearness, that Dr. Thorndyke should be summoned. After his wife and a servant had together helped him back to his room and bed, he insisted on retaining the gown in which he had clad himself. He did not speak again until Ross Thorndyke arrived, and through that interval (which lasted nearly an hour) he lay quite motionless, with eyes that wore the vacancy of coma. But the instant Thorndyke appeared he turned, grasping the vigorous and familiar hand of his friend.

"Don't forbid me to speak, Ross," he said, with the sudden flash of a forlorn smile. "I've only a short time to live. Help this awful load on my lungs, if you can. But while you're with me send her from the room." He glanced toward his wife, who stood at Thorndyke's elbow. "She's been my curse—my misdeeds!"

"Egbert!" reproved Thorndyke.

"It's true, Ross. Make her leave us together."

Thorndyke turned to Georgina, who had begun to tremble and weep. He went out of the room with her, but soon came back.

Ill as he was, Maynard now insisted on talking. He told the young doctor a great deal, and finally placed in his hands the letter and manuscript for Sylvan. If he failed to state what was the contents of the envelope, this omission sprang entirely from his growing bodily distress, which defied Thorndyke's appeasing efforts.

"My dear Egbert," the latter at length said, "you really must not speak again. It is suicide, and—"

"If it is?" broke in the suffering man, with despair, born of courage, "I can't last the night through, and you know it, Ross. Ah, if there only were a chance to brew that liquid before I go! But it would need three days, at the very least, and those of almost constant watching."

Just as his voice died away into a hollow moan Georgina slipped within the room. Her hands were clasped like a suppliant's as she glided up to her husband's bed-side.

"Oh, Egbert," she quiveringly said, "forgive me!"

"Forgive you!" he echoed, with a sneer. "Thief and assassin!"

She shrank backward an instant, but then rallied and re-approached the bed.

"I believed I was doing right in the eye of God—I believe it still; I can't help believing it. But at the same time your accusation is so horrible. Think: To call me your murderess—me, the mother of your children! Ah, take back this awful charge, Egbert! I don't deserve it! If—if you *should* go before you had the chance of saying not you but your anger spoke, why, then——"

"Both spoke," he returned, with a sort of icy hoarseness in his tone. "You robbed me, and your theft will cause my death. The law may not call it murder, but justice calls it so."

Maynard, while thus speaking, had raised himself quite high on the pillows. As he ceased his wife caught his hand between her own. Thorndyke strove to push her back with one arm, while he shot the other beneath the sick man's head as it swerved sideways with abrupt inertia. But Georgina would not be pushed back. A fierce cry left her lips, and she dashed forward, with the exclamation:

"Do have mercy on me, Egbert! Do remember—"

But there she paused. The pillow, the bed clothes, had become with horrid suddenness one scarlet witness of her husband's death.

And after that death Georgiana Maynard was never again the same woman. She had been left just enough money to live in fair ease with her two boys, while at the same time faithfully effecting their education. When the boys were a little older she removed with them into the country and took up her dwelling not far from that parsonage of her dead father where Maynard had first met her and won her love. Folk said of her that she had grown sour and hard, though it was true that her religious devotions became perfervid with the fresh lapse of years. As a fact, nearly all her cold curtness of manner was an outgrowth of that mental fret wrought by remorse; for though the smart of a burn may rouse in us temporary forces of endurance, what if no lotion should ever dull its pangs, and the nerve centers where lurk our sociality and amiability should in consequence turn as unfit for their office as the slackened cords of violins? It was this dreary state of living that caused Mrs. Maynard to be thought the grimmest and harshest woman in her quiet native English village. She could never refrain from shutting out all her spiritual

"DO HAVE MERCY ON ME, EGBERT!"

sunshine with the dark realization that she had dealt her husband his death. Not that she was ever able to believe her act in destroying the flask a really wrong one. Still, its results (as she gloomily accounted them) had proved appalling, and for years a ceaseless battle was waged between her shuddering conscience and the self-justifying dicta of her sectarian faith. It was a battle in which neither side ever gained a victory; her soul was the field in which it continued to be fought. Under its long series of cruel shocks her health at last succumbed. She died almost friendless, and with her two sons, now youths who verged on manhood, standing tearless though reverent while her grave was closed in the placid little English church-yard where her father had long ago lain down to rest.

Not that Sylvan did not mourn her death. He was not in his third year at Cambridge, and much in the shaping, the caliber of his mind resembled her own. He was profoundly religious, and at one time had thought of taking orders. Then he had been visited by a sense of unworthiness—a doubt of his capacity to play any save the meanest part in that throng of humanitarian churchmen whose creeds he honored, yet whose intellects he might never equal. More than that, his health was somewhat frail; he had inherited his father's delicate constitution; the wear and tear of such an ecclesiastic life and the one he should struggle to live would easily maim his powers. Two or three years before she died his mother perceived this, and her negative counsels formed his final reasons for not entering the church. On the other hand, she had left him an inclination for legal pursuits, and now that she was dead he brooded upon her advice. He would by no means be penniless; the law was an eminently "polite" profession; one could practice it thriftily without either oratory or any other sort of aptitude. To be a light in it was another matter, but to be prosperous in it was another still. Poor Sylvan did not perceive the full sarcasm of this changing from a would-be clergyman to a would-be barrister. But one day, not far from the time at which he quitted Cambridge with decent honors, an American fellow-collegian, who was taking his degree in the same year, made him a very cordial proposition. This young gentleman was named John Wilks Rathbone 3d., and not the least sign of character and personality which he possessed was a marked fondness for Sylvan. He liked to record himself as the grandson of Judge John Wilks Rathbone, now on the verge of 70 and still shining in New York as that unhappily too rare personage, one of our judges whose repute no fleck of soilure has touched. Sylvan's friend was an amiable youth, with slender mental endowments and a love for his native land which English association could not annul. "I'm an American and I'm proud of it," was a phrase nearly as often on his lips as the Morris cigarettes which he bought largely in St. James street. He had been sent to Cambridge by his renowned New York grandsire, and perhaps an important factor of his fondness for Sylvan was the semi-American parentage of Egbert Maynard's son. Incessant association with English people had never altered his American accent, and at the time of his departure from Cambridge he spoke, as the phrase has it, no less "through his nose" than when he had just planted his foot, several years past, on British soil. He was the acute opposite of the Yankee Anglomaniac, and though he let Poole attire him with a modish felicity that might have found favor at Sandringham itself, there was a keen cut of his thin face and a lax abandonment in his lank figure that told persistently of transatlantic birth.

"Come along with me to New York," he kept persuading Sylvan, "and study for the three years to be a lawyer at the Columbia college law school. You say you haven't got any relations in America except cousins ever so far removed? All right if you haven't. Grandfather 'll give you a start, I know. Grandfather 'll do anything I want him to do, now that I've humored his whim that I should go through Cambridge. Besides, your father was an American, and you ought to go back there and live. Oh, it's a magnificent country, Sylvan, and there a man's a man, I can tell you. He doesn't have to take off his hat and truckle and grovel to every lord he meets."

Sylvan could not help reflecting that there was a number of "lords" just then at Cambridge by whom he was certainly not expected to perform any such servile acts on meeting them; but still the idea of "seeing America" and possibly profiting by the splendor of a stray smile or two from that mighty man, Judge Rathbone, allured him not a little. His brother Gerald stood in the way of such a project; he was dearly fond of Gerald, though sometimes thinking him almost blasphemous in his indifference to religious things. And yet, Sylvan began to muse, why should a year or so of separation be held of such great account? There had once been enough money for four of them; there would surely be enough now for two. Everything had been left by their English mother (who had received all his property intact from her American husband) to the eldest born. But Sylvan was willing to share his last pound with Gerald. Still, both boys wanted more pounds if they could get them, and both were willing to work for them as well. But dollars were easier to get than pounds; to this effect young Rathbone sapiently assured the elder brother, who shared the large faith which has recently grown up in England that "the states" and quick money-making are very closely allied. Gerald, on his side, fired at the mere idea of an American residence. He was going to be a doctor, he! Medical questions were already of the deepest import to him, and as Sylvan one day laughingly told him, his Greek roots threatened to turn into those of rhubarb and quinine. "If that should prove the case," Gerald as gayly answered, "I shall be all the more pleased to transplant them into Western soil. Whenever I go up to London I've a morbid impulse for strolling through Harley street. I begin at Cavendish Square and end at Regent's Park; and I count so many doctors' plates on the door-panels that I grow depressed at their multitude. It consoles me, Sylvan, to reflect that there may be no such place as Harley street in New York. Perhaps there isn't. I'm decidedly curious to go there and find out for myself."

As it turned out, Gerald did not make his excursive inquiries for some time after he left Cambridge. Sylvan sailed away from him, however, in the company of Rathbone, and later Gerald pursued a course of medical study on English shores. His brother wrote him that he thought his plan best. A man could study to be a physician in one country and seek his patients in another. It was different with a lawyer, "and I'm now a lawyer," Sylvan at length continued to write, "in full blossom of activity. Old Judge Rathbone has been vastly kind to me, and since I've qualified the Columbia Law school I find his aid a ruby beyond price. It will serve me well, I feel more than sure. Keep straight, dear brother, and study hard in the profession you've chosen. I think that there really may be a good chance for you here. I hated New York at first, but I am far more reconciled to it now. Much that the English call vulgarity in this land is merely a national difference in the way of doing things. There are traits of New York refinement that can beat some London ones 'all hollow,' as you would say, dear boy."

After several more months came a letter that shocked and by no means pleased Gerald. His brother had quite suddenly married a young American girl whom he described as possessing much beauty and every charm of culture. Her name was Lucia Fythian, and she was the daughter of a gentleman who now was dead, but who once had been a jurist of great note. "Lucia is his orphan child, wrote Sylvan, 'and when I first met her she was the ward of an austere aunt, who sowed the household air with little jibes and sneers if her poor niece ventured to ask for a new pair of gloves. It was horrible, Gerald, and it woke my warm pity. Love soon slipped into my heart by the same door which pity had left ajar. I dare say it is often just like that with us; don't you think it is? Well, Lucia is my wife, now, and a fond little wife she makes. I am perfectly happy—or would be but for yourself, dear brother. Of course I always can spare you something until your own future prowess puts you firmly on your feet. Still, you will understand that my living expenses must now undergo a marked augment, and—" Gerald read no more for the present, but crushed

GERALD CRUSHED THE PAPER IN ONE HAND.

the paper in one hand with his fair Saxon skin crimsoning below his sunny locks.

It was cruel for Sylvan to serve him such a trick! But never mind; he would move heaven and earth, now, to show that he could shift for himself. This was the unjust British law of primogeniture. Still, let Sylvan keep all, since he legally had it. "I'll live on a crust a day," fumed Gerald, "rather than play pensioner. This Lucia Fythian (who possibly married Sylvan just to get those pairs of gloves that her aunt was so stingy about giving her) shan't be bored by any nuisance of a brother-in-law overseas. I'll turn sweep first; by Jove, I will!"

But as it happened, there was no need for Gerald to turn sweep. Hardly a day after he had made this proud resolve, a stranger called at his rather humble lodgings. Gerald read "Dr. Ross Thorndyke" on the card handed him, without at first the faintest thrill of memory. Soon afterward it flashed upon him that his father's old Cambridge friend had borne that name, and he went to meet Dr. Thorndyke with a sparkle in his azure eye and a heartiness in his handgrip which cheered the visitor like a magical draught.

"I see lots of your father in you," Ross Thorndyke at length said. "His eyes were gray, but yours would be exactly like them if they were not blue. And so your brother Sylvan is in America! How unfortunate that I should not have known it, who have lived in Chicago for an age. I might so easily have looked him up before I boarded the steamer in New York."

"It's too bad that you didn't know he was there," said Gerald. "You told me a few minutes ago, I think, that you greatly wanted to see him."

"Yes, greatly. I crossed the ocean for that purpose."

"Just to see Sylvan? Really?"

Dr. Thorndyke slowly nodded. He seemed to muse in the most absorbed way. Gerald watched his aged and altered face. That grayish beard, those lined features, that baldness which ennobled his fine brow just as it sometimes betrays and cheapens others—all were marks of change that had their saddening effects upon his own youth. For it is true of us that when we are young the matured features of those whom we have last looked on as freed from all time's harsher touches, assume ominous hints and meanings which have their roots in our human hatred of either senility or death.

"Yes," replied Dr. Thorndyke, "just as you say, to see Sylvan. And he's married, you tell me, and you've but yesterday heard the news. Has it depressed you?"

"Very much," Gerald murmured. Then he said more, and while he said it his father's old friend most intently listened.

"Gerald," he broke forth, as the young man finished, "I know exactly why this marriage has disturbed you. You're not yet through your course of medical study here in London. You're afraid. But my boy, don't fear a minute longer." And he put out his hand, which Gerald grasped, with strange hope beginning to bloom and brighten in his soul.

"I have the world to face all alone, sir, now," said Gerald. "That is, I hate to be dependent on Sylvan, who can hereafter ill afford."

"I understand," shot in Thorndyke. His face beamed kindliness as he pursued. "We must arrange all that. We can, my boy, and we shall. But first please answer me a question: How old is Sylvan?"

Gerald reflected for a moment, and then said: "He lacks a few months of five-and-twenty."

"He lacks a few months! You're sure! I'm very glad to hear it. I'm enormously glad to hear it."

He continued to speak with lowered eyes and mouth pursed ruminatively. "I didn't want to be too late. I dreaded that I might be. And I wanted to be on time."

"On time!" repeated Gerald.

Thorndyke lifted his eyes. "Yes. There were reasons."

"Dr. Thorndyke," the young man returned, curious and mystified, "may I ask you, sir, what those reasons are?"

"Oh, nothing," answered the doctor. "Nothing, I assure you."

But Gerald was secretly very dissatisfied with that "nothing," which struck him as less diplomatic than repellent.

TO BE CONTINUED.

SCENES ON A SMOKER.

How the Monotony of Railroad Travel is Occasionally Varied.

"Say," blurted out the brakeman, abruptly pausing in his stately march through the car, "where'd ye buy your clothes?"

"'Tis my business, you'd better believe," continued the undisturbed, brakeman, "The company'll want to hear from me. Did ye get that overcoat in England?"

"To thunder with you and the grave robbing company," trumpeted the now thoroughly infuriated passenger. "D'ye suppose I go to England for an $18 overcoat, you Nogswallager?"

"That settles it," calmly put in the brakeman. "You've set your coat afire with that cigarette o' yours, and I want no Gilbert damage suit on this road. Brookl en Tompk ays! step lively there."

'Twas a melancholy looking man who marshaled himself and an ominous frown into the car. His

Recent Literature.

The Latest Volumes That Have Reached the Blade Book Table.

"The Journal of Sir Walter Scott," published in two volumes by Harper and Brothers, New York City, shows the life and character of the novelist and poet better than anything which has been written before. It is declared to be taken from the original manuscript at Abbotsford, and certainly it bears the mark of originality.

"Cyril" is further named upon the title page "A Romantic Novel." The author, Geoffrey Drage, is evidently young and enthusiastic, and has written with a purpose, which seems to be the inculcation of patriotism. Altogether the book is worth reading. It is published by W. H. Allen & Co., London and Calcutta.

A revised edition of "War and the Weather," by Edward Powers, has been published by the author at Delevan, Wis. H is idea is to produce rainfalls by the agitation of the air through the means of gunpowder explosions. He observed during the war that after a battle with heavy cannonading there was invariably a rain, and he holds that something of that kind produced when occasion requires would bring relief in time of drouth.

"Foster's Whist Manual," is a complete system of instruction, presented in a most clear and intelligent, as well as intelligible manner. It is published by Brentano's, 5 Union Square, New York city.

"Rhymes of Childhood," by James Whitcomb Riley, is a book which all who have learned to like the poems of this writer will be glad to welcome. It is brought out in good form, with a portrait of the author, we fancy, with his nephew, to whom the book is dedicated, as a frontispiece. Published at Indianapolis, Ind., by The Bowen-Merrill Co.

W. L. Gottsberger & Co., New York, issued in pamphlet form a translation of one of George Ebers's works entitled, "The Elixir and Other Tales."

"The New Constitution" by John N. Cunning is published in Chicago, by Donahue, Henneberry & Co. It is designed especially for the farmer, and the working man and claims to tell how the former may pay off his mortgage, and how the latter may become his own master. Some of the subjects treated of are "Labor Demands Realities, Not Visions"; "Labor's Lost Heritage"; "Labor's Peculiar Capital"; "The New Constitution" etc. The book is of interest.

THE YEAR 1890.

A Review of the Most Important Events that Have Happened Within the Twelvemonth.

The year 1890, compared with many, was uneventful, yet its activities have been ceaseless and its developments numerous. It is to be noticed that the year opened with an epidemic, la grippe, and closed with the Indian disturbance in which Sitting Bull fell. Another epidemic during the year was the prevalence of cholera in Spain, killing hundreds. Three important gatherings were the celebration of the centennial anniversary of the establishment of the United States Supreme court in New York in February last, the congress of the representatives of France, Germany, Russia and Switzerland, agreeing to repress socialism, which occurred in June, and the general conference of the Mormon church in October at which it was decided to renounce polygamy.

From the standpoint of legal progress the ratification of the extradition treaty between the United States and Great Britain, March 25, and the signing of the modified Saxton ballot-reform bill in New York, May 3, assume importance. The year's revolutions were centered in July and August, and concerned chiefly the Central American states and the Argentine Republic. The more recent events of Stanley's return, his lecture tour, the unfortunate rear guard controversy, the announcement of Prof. Koch's cure for tuberculosis, the disturbances in the financial world, now happily subsided, and the Parnell divorce incident and subsequent political peverses, are fresh in mind.

Death has made many gaps in the ranks of the world's notables. Literature has suffered the loss of poets George H. Boker and John Boyle O'Reilly; novelists Gibbons, Alexander Chatrain and Alphonse Karr; dramatists Dion Boucicault and Adolphe Belot, and *litterateurs* Charles Marvin, Benjamin P. Shillaber, Richard Burton, famous alike as an explorer, and Diplomat Eugene Schuyler, who wrote much and well. The death of Fletcher Harper, Daniel S. Appleton and Dr. Henry M. Dexter removed men whose connection with letters had been long and valuable. In the world of art, Thomas Hicks, portrait painter, and Eugene Charpentier are missing.

Among the statesmen and diplomats the loss is especially noticeable. William D. Kelley; Count Julius Andrassy, ex-premier of Austria-Hungary; Gen. Robert C. Schenck, the Marquis Tseng, China's most noted envoy; Samuel Jackson Randall; Senator James B. Beck, of Kentucky; ex-Senator of War George W. McCrary; Beverly Tucker, of Virginia; Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, ex-Senator Thomas C. McCreery, of Kentucky; Gen. John C. Fremont, Justice Samuel F. Miller, and the king of Holland during the year and in the order named have passed to their final rest. Other significant deaths were those of John Jacob Astor and August Belmont, financiers; Gens. Crook and Terry, and Vice-Admiral Rowan, of the military, and Cardinal John Newman Canon Liddon and Dean Church, eminent theologians.

As compared with the year previous, 1890 cannot be called a year of great calamities. Its horrors and crimes are of the lesser degree, but they make up in frequency what they lose in magnitude. Only a glance can here be taken at some of the most conspicuous casualties. The year opened with the suffocation of 96 boys in a fire at a London school for paupers. In the same month a waterspout at Nanking, China, killed hundreds, and the foundering of the steamship Ivan in mid-Atlantic sent 85 passengers to the bottom. The February list disclosed General Tracy's Washington misfortune, by which his home was destroyed and his family invaded by the flames; 100 miners killed at the Abersychan colliery in England; thirty-nine of the crew of the foundered tow-boat Port Eads drowned at Memphis; 50 dead victims of a colliery explosion at Liecize, France, and 150 Oregonians drowned by the bursting of the Walnut Grove storage company's dam. In March an explosion in Noras colliery, Wales, caused a death-roll of 160 names. April showed 65 fatalities due to a hurricane in the Pacific islands. In May the burning of an insane asylum at Longue Pointe, Quebec, caused over 100 deaths; the foundering of the schooner Mary Eliza, near the New Hebrides, sent 51 sailors to a watery shroud, and thousands of natives died of the plague in the Soudan. June saw upward of 18,000 Russian peasants made homeless in the Ural mountains by forest fires. July was a fateful month. During it a cyclone at Muscat, Arabia, killed 700 natives, and on Lake Pepin, Wisconsin, sank the steamer Sea Wing, causing 125 deaths by drowning. In the same month the Western Union Telegraph company's building in New York was destroyed by fire; while at St. Etienne, France, a colliery explosion killed 98 miners and wounded 35. Two cyclones comprised August's record, one at Wilkesbarre, Pa., killing eleven people and destroying $500,000 worth of property, and one at Vaud, Switzerland, in which 150 persons met death. Four million Chinese were rendered homeless in September by floods in the province of Chili. In October 3,000 Chinese were killed at a powder explosion at Canton, 1,000 Russian emigrants were drowned by the foundering of a Russian vessel off Cape Vincent and 68 passengers went down with the Cuban steamship Viscaya off Barnegat. An explosion of powder at Tai-Ping-Fu, China, caused a death-list of 300 in November. The collapse of a house at Bombay, by which 80 inmates were killed, the bursting of a dam at Cordova, Argentine, destroying 100 lives, and the sinking of the British ship Talookdar, with 23 deaths by drowning, are December events familiar to all observant readers.

This practically closes the dark side of the picture. The bright side is felt in the million happy homes to the inmates of which has been one of progress and cheer.

Two soft-shelled eggs connected by a gament of the same material as the shells were laid the other day by a hen in Paw Paw, Mich.

THE CZAR'S GREATEST FOE.

Stepniak, the Famous Russian Writer, Coming to America to Lecture.

Sergius Stepniak, the Russian revolutionary writer, whose real name is Michael Dragomanoff, is, of all the so-called

SERGIUS STEPNIAK.

nihilists, the man most feared by the Russian government, because his writings have done more to sow discontent in Russia and to expose to the world the methods by which the people are kept down than all the other agitators put together. Stepniak is a man of great ability and a writer of uncommon force. He was born among the Ukraine mountains in 1841 and is of Cossack ancestry. His immediate family were partly noble and partly of the trading class and he received a good education. He commenced writing in the dialect of Little Russia while a student at the university of Kieff, but his works were prohibited by the government. Later he was appointed professor of ancient history at Kieff, but his criticisms of the policy of Count Tolstoi, the minister of justice, caused his removal and exile.

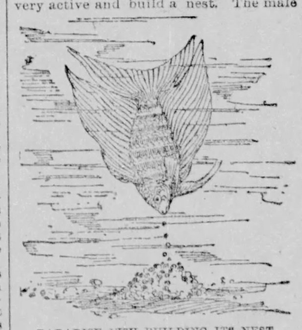
Stepniak settled in Geneva, Switzerland, and devoted himself exclusively to a literary crusade against the present system of government in Russia. Besides "Underground Russia," "Russia Under the Czars," "Tyrannicide Russia," "The Turks Within and Without," and other books which were written for the outside world, he has written numerous works, mostly in the Little Russian dialect, for the purpose of spreading his ideas among his own people. He is not a nihilist in the ordinary acceptation of the term and is as much opposed to socialism as he is to absolutism. His aim is to establish representative government in Russia and to give the people control of their local affairs. Beside his political works he has written much on the ethnography, history, literature and legends of Little Russia.

BUILD NESTS IN THE WATER.

The Paradise Fish a Marvel of Beauty With Curious Habits.

There is on exhibition at a little aquarium in a window in East Sixteenth street, New York, a curious group of the finny tribe never before seen in this country. It is a family of Cochin China paradise fish consisting of a full grown male and female and several of their little progeny. The fish is a marvel of beauty. The head is gray in color, and is mottled with dark spots, and the gills blue, bordered with crimson. The eyes are yellow and red, and the pupils black. The sides of the body are crimson, with ten or twelve vertical blue stripes. The tail is crescent in shape and is crimson, with a blue border. When the fish is excited all the colors are brilliant. When the male fish is fighting for the possession of a female of the species he extends all his fins and displays their most vivid colors. The tail is covered with small spots, like the eyes of a peacock's tail, and the under surface of the fish becomes jet black. The colors of the dorsal fin change constantly from green to blue, sometimes showing white spots, and the body trembles perceptibly, radiating colors of every hue.

As summer approaches the fish become very active and build a nest. The male



PARADISE FISH BUILDING ITS NEST.

fights for the possession of the female and the victor betakes himself to a corner of the aquarium, where he commences to construct his nest. Taking a position about an inch below the surface of the water he frequently takes air into his mouth and then ejects it forcibly in the shape of little bubbles covered with a glutinous substance which prevents them from bursting for several hours. He continues to make bubbles until he has a little floating platform about six inches in circumference and a quarter of an inch thick. When the nest is finished the female approaches and deposits her eggs beneath the nest. The male gathers the eggs with his mouth and places them on the bubbly nest. When all the eggs have been cared for the female again makes her appearance, and the operation is repeated until about a thousand eggs are on the nest. The eggs hatch out in about thirty-six hours.

Worth Knowing.

A St. Louis man tells his method of keeping a bouquet fresh for a long time: "I put a little salt, a spoonful or more, in the bootom of the vase. Then I fill the vase with ice broken into pieces the size of a walnut. On this I put the bouquet, the same as you put the stems into a glass of water. I never put any water in the vase, however. Enough comes from from the melting ice and salt."

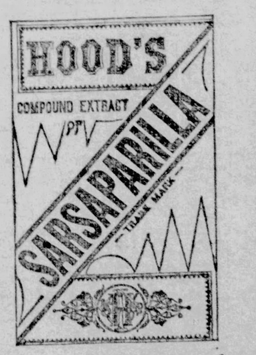
Probably—Why Not?

"I wonder," said an old soldier to another, as they loitered through the art gallery, "who those people without legs and arms were?"

"I s'pose" was the reply, "they came East after a pension, and petrified while they were waiting for it."—[Puck.

To a Silent Maiden.

If talk is really cheap, as some folks say,
I wonder, lovely miss-a-ris, that you
Don't go a-shopping some bright sunny day,
And see if you can't buy a word or two.



The importance of purifying the blood cannot be overestimated, for without pure blood you cannot enjoy good health.

At this season nearly every one needs a good medicine to purify, vitalize, and enrich the blood, and Hood's Sarsaparilla is worthy your confidence. It is peculiar in that it strengthens and builds up the system, creates an appetite, and tones the digestion, while it eradicates disease. Give it a trial.

Hood's Sarsaparilla is sold by all druggists. Prepared by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

100 Doses One Dollar

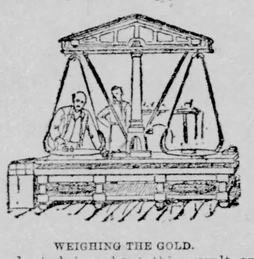
The Shipment of Gold.

How the Shipment of Millions in Gold Goes on and How the Transportation is Effected—Ocean Transit.

Of course, such things as conditions of exchange vary the great quantities of specie which commerce or the financial conditions of the world of trade command to go upon the ocean from week to week, but the amount of sovereigns or of the beautiful double eagles of our own country which pass from England to this country or back to England again in a single week nowadays would represent the total spoils of a Pizzaro and a Cortez combined.

And, yet this great shifting of the precious metals goes on from month to month, from year to year, without arousing more than a casual remark. Tourists voyage upon steamships which carry upon their decks sufficient gold to plate the dome of St. Peter's an inch thick or would buy a principality without mortgages. Orders for a million from the Bank of England are events of so usual occurrence that they do not cause the merest flutter in the movement of trade; similiar demands from the other side upon our Assay office are of quite as usual occurrence.

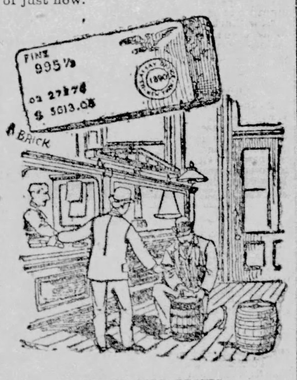
American bankers simply cable their correspondents in London, Paris, Amsterdam or Berlin to send them a certain amount of refined gold or specie, and over it comes on the next steamer without any more ado. Theoretically the simplicity of this sort of thing is beautiful, and when one only recognizes the change from possessor to possessor the system seems to be ideally perfect. But



WEIGHING THE GOLD.

in order to bring about this result and still to preserve the integrity of the commercial relations there are lots of things to do. Even with these precautions and with the preparations of years there occurs times when it is very difficult to secure even a tithe of the gold needed to supply the demands of the business community. Then a great inconvenience takes possession of the financial world.

The method of shipment, the precautions to prevent loss, the preparations made to assure the certainty of its arrival, the insurance against disaster by wreck and the many other perils of the sea, its passage through various hands here before it is converted into either circulation or the circulating medium—in fact, all the course which the yellow metal goes through from the time that the banker sends an order to his European correspondent until it appears in equivalent form in a check of the assay office here upon the United States subtreasury in New York should be of interest to that great mass of persons who know that the gold comes from somewhere somehow, but have no conception of just how.



PACKING GOLD BRICKS.

In the first place, when the rates of exchange are very low on this side, as they are at present, the banker sends word to his correspondent on the other side to ship him so many hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of gold, just as a wholesale importer of silk would request his agent on the other side to ship him a hundred pieces of Lyons silk. The visit on this order is taken to Threadneedle street by the correspondent, and the requisite amount of the precious metal is ordered either by drafts or upon the presentation of Bank of England bills for the amount. If the gold will be secured in either fine gold bars or in American double eagles, the transaction, so far as the bank is concerned, is done. But if the bank declines to part with any of these, then the demand is made for the payment of the order or bills in sovereigns. It is here that some of the complications of details comes in. For, notwithstanding the general impression that English sovereigns are always new and beautiful, many of those in the great vaults which are available for shipment are neither, for circulation wears the English coin quite as much as it does ours. So, instead of receiving the number of sovereigns in sovereigns that the demand is made for, the old sovereigns are dumped into a big scale and weighed like so much sugar. Then when the amount in what Mr. Swinburne calls "the ruddy red gold" is measured out, the correspondent puts himself in communication with the New York banker and says that so much gold, at such and such a price, is held subject to his instructions. It doesn't take a cablegram long to get across to order a prompt shipment, and over the specie comes on the next big mail steamer.

Here again the similarity of shipment to that of ordinary merchandise is evident. The gold is taken from the bank in canvas bags to the broker's or banker's office and repacked in small iron bound kegs. A visit is made then to an insurance company's office and the contents of the little kegs is insured at a rate of about one-eighth of one per cent. A couple of bills of lading are secured and one of these is shipped with the gold and the duplicate is put in an envelope with the insurance policy and sent across by a mail steamship which sails about the same time.

PRECAUTIONS UPON PRECAUTIONS.

Of course there is a big object in doing this, because if by some mishap the steamer carrying the specie should go down the insurance policy would still be all right and the unfortunate insurance company would still be responsible; besides the duplicate bill of lading will furnish indubitable proof that the gold was shipped. Thus there is very little risk attendant upon the shipment of the specie.

After all these precautions against loss have been taken, the gold is carried by a truckman, who makes a specialty of this sort of business, to the railway station for shipment to Southampton. The gold is placed in the mail car with a special guard, and as there are no road agents of surpassing pluck in England, the gold is about as certain to get to the steamer as the hours are to come around. Besides, the robber who has the bad judgment to try to run off with a keg of gold would tire out before he got very far with his booty.

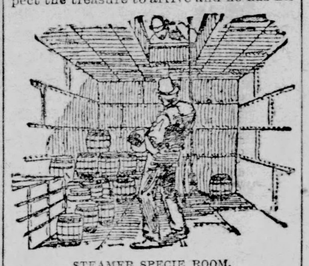
Upon the arrival of the treasure at Southampton or Liverpool, as the case may be, the gold is put aboard the steamer and carried below to the iron or steel enclosed apartment known as the mail room. Just as soon as the specie gets aboard the steamer's purser takes charge of it, and thenceforth until it is landed the steamship company is responsible for it to the consignor and the purser is responsible for it to the company.

This mail room differs in size on the various steamers, but they are all about as strong as iron or steel can make them —in fact, they are veritable safes built into the steamer, and may be opened only by the purser. So you see there is no divided responsibility here, for the purser is the only one who has the keys, and he usually knows how to keep them pretty safely.

Once locked up the gold remains undisturbed, unless by remote chance a keg should be misplaced. This has never yet occurred, but should it transpire in the future the steamship company can only come up to the banker's office and settle.

WHEN IT ARRIVES IN PORT.

All steamships which carry the mails also carry gold, and as the transportation of it is extremely profitable, the rates even now, despite very vigorous competition, being one-eighth of one per cent, the bankers have little else to do than to select the first steamer which leaves port. By means of cablegrams the consignee is informed at what time to expect the treasure to arrive and he has his



STEAMER SPECIE ROOM.

truckman down on the pier ready to receive it as soon as it arrives. The latter takes his precious load according to instructions direct to the assay office in Wall street.

There the entrance is made through the big gates at the west of the building between the assay office and the subtreasury. The gates clang to again and that lot of gold goes in never to come out again in exactly the same form. The gold, as it is rolled into the assay office on queer little trucks and goes into the big room on the first floor, where Mr. Graham has presided with power for so many years. Then it actually becomes the property of the Treasury department of the United States government. For it must not be supposed that it is put upon the money market in either sovereigns or in our own specie when it arrives.

On the contrary, in whatever form it comes to the assay office, it is taken and dumped on the pretty brass scales which tower behind Mr. Graham's desk and carefully weighed. These scales are worthy of a visit. While they are not especially impressive in appearance, they are capable of doing a big lot of work. They can accommodate very nearly a thousand pounds, and will also indicate to a hair when there is only a grain on their plates.

THEY GET THREE-QUARTERS VALUE.

When the banker or his properly accredited representative calls at the assay office he presents his advices and the gold is weighed on Mr. Graham's scales. The banker is given a check upon the subtreasury next door in amount to represent three-quarters of the value of the gold in ounces, the remainder payable after the gold has been assayed. This is done for the convenience of the banker, who may wish to use the money right away, and for the protection of the government.

It can usually be determined very soon by these experts in the assay office whether the gold given them is of fine quality or not, so they don't take many risks in making this advance. The custom has been observed for very many years, and there is yet to occur anything to make a change advisable. As soon as the banker receives his check upon the sub-treasury his interest in the transaction practically ends. Of course he is still interested in the one-quarter of the value of the gold which is still coming to him, but his main object, that of securing the gold to meet the pressing demand of his customer, is accomplished. Upon the presentation of his check to the sub-treasury he receives his money in nice new gold certificates, in gold coin or however else he may choose.

At the assay office the gold received is taken to the smelting room and there tossed into the big crucibles, where the purification by fire takes place in a mighty short space of time. When the molten metal, relieved of all alloy or other extraneous matter, is run into forms, producing when cooled pretty yellow blocks of the gold about three inches wide by five inches long and two-thirds of an inch thick. These bricks, valued at about $6,000 each, are stowed away in small oaken boxes with heavy iron handles and placed in the vaults of the assay office, where there is just at present something like $22,000,000 in refined gold.

The method of reshipping gold to England and the Continent is practically the same. The demand is made upon the Sub-Treasury and an order is issued from the Sub-Treasurer for the amount in fine gold bars. This is taken in next door, presented and the treasure handed out and carted away. It is in this way that the jewellers are supplitid with fine gold.

Fifteen contestants clad for the fray,
Armed with good steel and in battle array,—
Striving for lucre, as brave Knights of old
Strove for their honors and medals of gold.
Driving each shining pen over the paper,
Seeking to sound, as the most proper caper,
The praises of remedies known the world over—
From Paris to Calais, from Calais to Dover;
But each Knight valiantly strives—language fails in description
Of the manifold virtues of "Favorite Prescription."

When ill or depressed with that "dragging down" feeling, consequent upon weakness, suffering from headache, weak or lame back, and the many ills common to the weaker sex, take Dr. Pierce's Prescription, which is guaranteed to give satisfaction or price ($1.00) returned. See printed guarantee on bottle-wrapper.

Dr. Pierce's Pellets—gently laxative or actively cathartic according to dose. 25 cents.

Immigration in the United States.

The number of immigrants that arrived in this country during the month of November was 40,643, as against 29,097 during the same month of last year. For the eleven months of this year and 1889 arrivals were as follows:

	1890.	1889.
Austria-Hungary—		
Bohemia	7,401	2,519
Hungary	28,253	10,958
Other Austria (except Poland)	28,379	22,092
Denmark	9,648	8,241
France	6,183	5,693
Germany	91,880	92,027
Great Britain and Ireland—		
England and Wales	53,398	59,600
Scotland	10,945	14,484
Ireland	52,240	50,178
Italy	50,424	27,810
Netherlands	4,314	6,068
Poland	10,575	4,510
Russia (except Poland)	88,592	31,614
Sweden and Norway	41,985	41,259
Switzerland	6,441	6,019
All other countries	15,879	11,415
Totals	468,309	407,237

The increase shown by these figures is 61,072. The heaviest gains are in the emigration from Austria-Hungary and Italy.

A Familiar Jingle.

"Dirty days hath September,
April June and November,
And from February until May
The rain it raineth every day.
All the rest have thirty-one,
Without a single gleam of sun;
And if they should have thirty-two,
They'd be dull and dirty, too."
—[Middletown Press.

Opening a New Account.

Old Scadds.—Young man, you've got to turn over a new leaf this year!

Young Scadds (modestly).—Thank you, sir; would you mind starting my fresh page in the ledger with an advance of two hundred.—[Puck.

Success Knocks Out Sentiment.

He said: "I write for Fame, not money!"
And Fame, at last, came to him.
The greed he now displays for cash
Astounds all those who knew him.
[Puck.

St. Jacobs Oil
CURES
BRUISES,
FROST-BITES,
INFLAMMATIONS
—AND ALL—
HURTS AND ILLS
OF MAN AND BEAST.

Brought back

to health—sufferers from the worst forms of Skin and Scalp Diseases, Scrofulous Sores and Swellings, and all manner of blood-taints. It's done by Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, which purifies and enriches the blood, and through it cleanses and renews the whole system. Even Lung-scrofula (known as Pulmonary Consumption) yields to it, if taken in time and given a fair trial. It's *guaranteed* to benefit or cure, in every case, or money paid for it is refunded. Only a medicine that does what is claimed for it, could be sold on such terms. No other medicine, besides the "Discovery" has undertaken it.

So positively certain is it in its curative effects as to *warrant* its makers in selling it, as they are doing, through druggists, *on trial!*

It's especially potent in curing Tetter, Salt-rheum, Eczema, Erysipelas, Boils, Carbuncles, Sore Eyes, Goitre, or Thick Neck, and Enlarged Glands, Tumors and Swellings. Great Eating Ulcers rapidly heal under its benign influence.

CHIT-CHAT ABOUT THE LADIES.

Women have long held a prominent place in New York journalism, and to day they are more prominent than ever. As a rule they fill a special field of newspaper work in which men would be out of place, but in some instances they stand shoulder to shoulder with the men, and are well able to hold their own Perhaps the most curious instance of this to be found in the whole world is Middy Morgan, the six-foot Irishwoman, who talks good English with a rich Cork accent, and reports the cattle market for the *Times*. She is said to be one of the best judges of horseflesh in the United States, and at one time managed the stables of a prominent turfman Years ago she had performed the same function for King Victor Emmanuel, of Italy. She is the daughter of an Irish landlord who died broken in fortune through horse-racing, and left her, at the age of 12, with an embarrassed estate and a little brother to take care of. She came through all right and thus acquired her knowledge of horse flesh and farm stock.

In striking contrast to Miss Morgan is Miss Helen Watterson, the "Woman About Town" of the *Evening Sun*. She has struck a new vein in journalism, and

MISS HELEN WATTERSON.

her bright, almost philosophical and worldly-wise gossip has already made its mark, although she has been scarcely a year in New York. She went to the *Evening Sun* from the University of Wooster, Ohio, where she filled the chair of rhetoric and English. She had previously done excellent editorial work on the press of Cleveland, in which city she was born. She gives promise of a brilliant journalistic career.

Miss Gilder, the brilliant and versatile editor of the *Critic*, still occasionally writes on special subjects for the daily press, but finds more congenial employment in her own special field. Nellie Bly has taken to story writing, and Elizabeth Bisland, her rival globe-circler, has gone to Europe. Miss Glenn, daughter of old Sam Glenn, of the *Herald*, long since gone to his account, once held her own with the boys as a general reporter, but recently got married and has settled down to housekeeping. Mrs. Crandall, who was, perhaps, the best society reporter in New York, died recently. Among those who still continue to do general or special reportorial work are Nell Nellson (Miss Nellie Cusack), of the *World*, and Margaret Manton, of the *Morning Journal*. Marriage is continually thinning the ranks of the women journalists, but others, young, bright and full of ambition, come in to take the vacant places or make new fields of their own.

Sixty the Average Age of Senators.

More than half of the constitutional convention of 1787 were men who had not reached the age of 45, while there are only seven men who are not past 45 among the eighty-eight members of the United States Senate to-day, and four of these come from the younger states o the West, where there are fewer old men than in the East, Maine and Vermont having, according to the census returns of age, more than six times as many males past the age of 60 proportionally as Colorado and the Dakotas.

No less than 37 of the 88 senators, or nearly half of all, are past 60, and nine of them beyond 70, as three others will be in a few months. Mr. Morrill has a colleague from Ohio who, like him, was born in 1810; two who were born in 1813, and three in 1818. Three of these have, like him, sought and obtained re-elections after they were past 70. The average age of all the senators full only about a year short of 60.

In the Supreme court the change has been equally remarkable. Since Pierce's day but one man has been placed upon this bench who had not passed the age of 48, while of the twelve appointees during the past two decades no less than four were more than 60 when they took their seats. Of the eight judges left after Mr. Miller's death one is 70 years old, one is 74, and one is 77.—[Century.

Those Would-Be Millions.

I tell May that the freckles,
Which she thinks such disgrace,
Are only where the sun and wind
Have stopped to kiss her face.

But, oh, how very lucky
I'm not like sun and wind!
For how she'd look, if I had left
Each time a mark behind!
—[Boston Commercial.

Will Know Better Next Time.

The man who recently refused to aid a British policeman struggling with a party of roughs has been fined £20. The law requires that a citizen shall render help under such circumstances.

Decline of Peter's Pence.

Peter's pence has rather declined of late. So far they have yielded 18,000,000 francs a year. The pope has already accumulated a considerable sum of money, which he has well invested, destined for a reserve fund for the church.

Bismarck's Literary Work.

The statement that Prince Bismarck is engaged upon a "Life of the Emperor William I" is pure fiction. Prince Bismarck's literary work is to take the form of writing or dictating his own "Memoirs," but up to the present time he has not completed the arrangement of his vast collection of letters and papers.

The Camp Fire.

Contributions for this department from the old soldiers are solicited by the editor; but short and lively personal and historical sketches, interesting reminiscences, etc., are preferable. Every comrade will be recognized, and no contribution will be overlooked. Nothing from the records is desired, as we are supplied with a full set.

"Bub's" Bright Budget.

CHRISTMAS, 1864, the battles of Franklin and Nashville had been fought, and the liberty bird was triumphant. Hood's army was demoralized and routed! On the night before Christmas booming cannon were heard far down the flooded Tennessee river, and on the morning of the day we should have devoted to other deeds than bloody ones, Uncle Sam's "shell boxes" made their appearance off Florence. Then and there they "argued the question" in a very strong manner, of secession taking the negative side, and won by sheer force of their "reasoning strength."

Dinner hour has arrived; the last morsel is cooked. Menu—Roast turkey, *en deshabille*; coffee (Rye); bread (black), served between cannon discharges.

The result of the land-water battle was one company of rebel cavalry routed, the rebel battery knocked out of time, two rebels killed, four wounded, and a section of backbone taken from Jeff. Davis's "Monopoly." Great Scott! those shells were about as large as my mother's washpot, and if the noise terrified men, how can any one wonder at two boys (myself and older brother, aged 13, were the only members of our family at home, our aunt having taken the two younger brothers and fled the day before to a place of safety) being terror stricken! But few people remained in town, and those were lying low in cellars or getting as many brick walls between them and danger as possible.

One amusing incident I recollect which occurred that day. When a large shell exploded in the air, an aged and terrified darkey exclaimed:

"Fo' de lovin' Lawd; dem Yankees is er gwine ter whup, sho'! Dey's shootin' frum de watah, and de heabens, too! Oh, my Gawd!" as another shell exploded and he fled.

* * *

Fred Rogge springs a subject that we should more than consider; in fact, I have a suggestion to make to those who are inclined, of the old vets or their sons and daughters. It is this: That we send to some common center, for distribution among the Soldiers' homes, such literature of a good nature as we can gather, with the postoffice address and name of each contributor written plainly on the fly leaf or margin, so that the recipient can write to the doner; and let us write to all such as take advantage of the privilege. It would not only cheer the "dear old boys," but also offer an opportunity for amusement to young people, and probably bring about a renewal of old friendships.

What say you, "old bums and coffee coolers," *a la* Cleveland?

* * *

In '64, just after Hood started from Florence for Franklin, at dusk of a cloudy day, an old woman trudged up to our back yard fence, asked permission to stop over night, and on coming in the yard yelled out, "Hurrah for Jeff Davis!"

My aunt said to her, "Plague take you, mosey out of this yard! Mosey!"

The old woman then said, "Can I have a chunk of fire, as I will have to camp out?"

My aunt replied, "Yes; come in and get it."

The old woman came up to the door slowly, and remarked, "You'ns ain't secesh, air ye?"

"No!" as emphatically as the word could be spoken, was snapped at her.

Then the old woman smiled and said in low tones, "Hurrah for Abe and his friends!" She was then given supper and lodging for the night, and departed an hour before day, with the cautioning remark, "If any one asks about an old woman, say no!"

About 10 o'clock that morning five rebel soldiers halted at our fence, and asked if we had seen an old woman pass. Of course we had not. Who was she, (or he) and what was her mission? The rebs failed to make a catch.

* * *

In looking over my father's papers a few days ago I came across a letter written at Atlanta, by Lieut. W. H. Smith, of the 12th Ills., to my father at Huntsville, on the eve of Sherman's cyclonic move to the sea, and it aroused many grateful memories of the 12th—"Billie Smith," Col. Rowett, and especially of Capt. Johnson and his "boys." May the survivors have a prosperous year.

* * *

Attention, boys! The Camp Fire is the rallying point. Charge with renewals, anecdotes, and reminiscences!

* * *

Wake up, Uncle Dan, and answer to roll call about the Camp Fire; your cheery face, I think, will inspire more of the "vets" to tumble out to answer to their names. Happy New Year to the "Grand Old Guard," and our friend, THE BLADE!—BUB.

A Relic of Vicksburg.

After the surrender of Vicksburg to General Grant, on July 4, 1863, says the Rocky Mountain *Herald*, the Union soldiers discovered that a paper which had been published in the city, and known as the Vicksburg *Daily Citizen*, was about ready to go to press with the issue of July 5. The surrender of the city had interfered with the publication, and the "boys in blue" conceived the idea of completing it. They went to press after adding a note in the forms, and used the back of wall paper to print the edition upon, as had been the custom of the Johnnies after their supply of print paper had been exhausted. One of the editorials read as follows:

On Dit—That the great Ulysses—the Yankee generalissimo, surnamed Grant—has expressed his intention of dining in Vicksburg on Saturday next, and celebrating the 4th of July by a grand dinner and so forth. When asked if he would invite General Jo. Johnston he said: "No! for fear there will be a row at the table." Ulysses must get into the city before he dines in it. The way to cook a rabbit is "first catch the rabbit."

This was the note set up by the Union boys, and which occupied the lower left hand corner of the paper:

Two days bring about great changes. The banner of the union floats over Vicksburg. Gen. Grant has "caught the rabbit," he has dined in Vicksburg and he did bring his dinner with him. The Citizen lives to see it. For the last time it appears on "wall paper." No more will it eulogize the luxury of mule meat and fricasseed kitten—urge Southern warriors to such diet ne more. This is the last wall paper edition, and is, excepting this note, printed from the types as we found them. It will be valuable hereafter as a curiosity.

A Record Second to None.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—I love to read THE BLADE, and especially the Camp Fire. It brings back to my mind the scenes and events that transpired in my own army life. I enlisted in August, 1862, and was mustered out in June, 1865. I was with the regiment all through its marches, battles and skirmishes, and I think the 101st has a record that stands second to none. What say you of the 101st, especially Co. H? Where are you? Why don't some of you, when you come in off of picket, bring in a chunk that will help to keep the fire burning? Come, boys, wake up, and get in line for roll call was; namely, the Iowa war against Long live THE BLADE, and may it always cherish that happy feeling toward the "boys in blue" in the future which it has in the past. I wish you all a Happy New Year!—H. C. MILLER, Co. H, 101st O. V. I.

"Forgive? Yes! Forget? No!"

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—It would have cost a man his life down South at the beginning of the war to have been caught with Horace Greeley's *Tribune* in his pocket. Lincoln had no electoral ticket there Some one in our precinct wrote one and voted for him. The "chivalry" tried hard and long to find out who did it—they would have murdered him. In February, 1864, Tennessee voted against treason. We went to the polls again in June. The election was held in a log school house. The first ticket offered was open, and read: "No separation; no representation."

This represented the "old stars and stripes." Instead of taking the proffered ballot, one of the judges, West by name, said: "Whoever votes that ticket is a traitor!" To this came a quick, emphatic, "You are a d—— liar!" Simultaneously two pistols were pointed across the table, but mutual friends interfered and the weapons were taken from the men. No sooner were they disengaged than the glitter of long knives flashed in our faces. These, too, were taken, but by this time the feeling ran high that there must be a conflict, for the rebels had declared boldly that they intended to carry the day at all hazards, and this began to look like an intended provocation. The rebs said Hughes should not vote. They were given to understand that if he did not neither would they. After standing with clenched teeth and weapons, eyeing each other a while, the factions cooled off, Hughes voted, and we beat them 45 votes. And so it was throughout Eastern Tennessee. But with bayonets in the hands of thousands of imported soldiers who voted, we, with our 25,000, were overwhelmed in Middle and Western Tennessee. Then began a reign of terror and barbarity towards the Union people, blood-curdling and hate-inspiring.

A Methodist minister, Dougan, very corpulent and weighing 400 pounds, was stripped to shirt, drawers and socks, and made to "double quick" twelve miles, to, Athens, where he soon died. In Knoxville, they tied a man to the tail of a fiery horse and turned the animal loose in the streets, till the man's brains were dashed upon the pavements. A Methodist church was then burned. They must bridge had been burned. They must avenge it some way. Without a scinctilla of evidence against the accused, they hung the father and two sons near the track, and the rebel soldiers on their way to Bull Run, beat the dead bodies with sticks as the cars passed by. They arrested my father, a life long Democrat, and took him to headquarters, and asked him which he was for. I was present with him, being then 16 years old. He said, I am opposed to the disruption of the Union." The colonel drew his revolver, but as he fired, a captian struck his wrist, and the bullet went over father's head. The colonel said, "Take him off to Tuscaloosa and starve him to death!" They would doubtless have carried out the threat, had I not interceded and persuaded father to take a modified oath, to the effect that he would not take up arms against them as long as he stayed in the state, or as long as they held possession of the state.

These are only a few of the tens of thousands of the terrible indignities and tortures and cruel deaths inflicted upon true, but, in a measure, defenseless people. To the number of 31,000 we left everything and went North. Many never returned. Many on their return found but a few ashes to mark the site of their once happy homes, and nothing save a neglected little earth mound to indicate the fate of loved ones. Were the "Southern Federals" true? The God of Truth knows. Were they brave? History records at least some of their acts—let the world judge. Shall we forgive? Yes! Forget? No! We couldn't if we would, and I don't believe we should if we could. Too much has been suffered and sacrificed to patriotism. It should be treasured up as a lesson and a caution.

Why does the South oppose the elections bill? Simply because long accustomed to triumph through fraud and violence, they realize that without these, inevitable defeat stares them in the face. To thus domineer and dominate are begotten of slavery and concomitant evils. While clamoring for freedom and local self-government, they are tyrants and intolerant of private judgment. And for political reasons the Democrats of the North refuse to know the truth, and defend the outrage, and clamor against any interference with the rifle, club and and tissue ballot manipulators of Dixie.

Herein lies the danger to the Republic. The prevention or destruction, of a free ballot, is the entering wedge to the destruction of Representative government. As Greece and Rome fell as the result of a corruptful ballot, so may we as the result of suppressed suffrage, or of changed results! The danger is obscured by partisan prejudice, and the wild, mad rush after riches. None are in so good a position to look at the subject in a dispassionate, unprejud

Question Bureau.

Rules.—1. Send your real name and address, and make your questions plain.

2. Do not ask us where you can *buy* or *sell* anything, nor ask for addresses of business men or firms. This would be free advertising.

3. Do not ask whether any business man or firm is reliable.

4. Send only questions whose replies will be of general interest to our readers. We reserve the right not to answer queries which we consider are not so. Mathematical problems, puzzles, etc, are barred by this rule.

5. No replies by mail to questions, in any case.

Pension Questions.

H. W. O., Clarkson, O.: 1.—What per cent of the pension appropriation goes direct to the soldiers? 2.—What per cent is paid to clerk and local agents? 3.—What per cent goes to the examining surgeon? 4.—What per cent goes to claim agents or attorneys?

1.—98½ per cent.

2.—One-tenth of one per cent.

3.—Nine-tenths of one per cent.

4.—$10 a case, if allowed, or about 1 per cent.

C. H. P., Milligan, Tenn.: "Can a widow (a pension who re-married before her son enlisted? She got his bounty."

Yes.

J. W. S., Stonewall, Colo.: 1.—"If a man is a pensioner, and commits a crime, and is sent to state's prison, does his pension stop. 2.—If he serves his time out can he get a pension after?"

He draws his pension while in prison, but it is held for him until his release.

J. T. S., Verona, Mo.: "Can a step-mother who lost two sons in the service of their country, both dying in hospitals during the late war, receive a pension for them? She is entirely dependent and quite old."

No.

D. S. M., St. John, Kan.: "My father sent four sons to the late war, and the youngest but one was killed. I think at Petersburg, and the youngest was rendered unable to do manual labor and is receiving a pension. I am younger but was born in 1862. My father lives in Indiana and the pension agents there tell him that he can get a pension. Now, can he get a pension or not?"

He can, if he is dependent on others for his support.

"B. E. L.," Trask, Ore.: "Can a soldier that pre-empted eighty acres of land and had to leave it on the account of the grasshoppers and never proved up or got any benefit of it, pre-empt again? If allowed to pre-empt again can he pre-empt the full 160?"

Yes.

J. W. G., Taylorville, Ohio: "A soldier is drawing a pension of $6 a month for disability contracted in the service of the Union. Since the war he has become hard of hearing. Can he get a pension for said disability under the disability law, in addition to the one already getting?"

He can, but only up to $12 per month.

J. B., Hammond, Kan.: 1.—"A made application for pension ten years ago, and his claim has not been adjusted yet. Can he order his representative to get his papers from the pension department and press it as a private pension bill? 2.—If he fails in getting a pension, can the papers be returned to the pension department without interfering with the claim as it now stands?"

The claim must be rejected by the pension office before a private bill can be introduced.

Sale of Winds.

G. M. C., Toledo, O.: It is well known that in the middle ages the Lapianders drove a profitable trade in selling winds to mariners. The King of sweden, the same Erico quoted by Olaus Magnus, was, as Mr. Mordaunt, "in his time held second to none in the magician's art, and he was so familiar with the evil spirits whom he worshipped that, what way soever he turned his cap the wind would presently blow that way. For this he was called "Windy Cap." "It is perhaps less notorious," says Sir Walter Scott, "that within the present century certain old women might be purchased on British ground, where it was likely to be in great request. At the village of Stromness on the Orkney main island called Ponoma, lived in 1814 an old dame called Bessie Millie, who helped out her substance by selling favorable winds to mariners.

"He was a venturous master of a vessel who left the roadstead of Stromness without paying his offering to propitiate Bessie Millis; her fee was extremely moderate, being exactly six pence, for which, she expressed herself, she boiled her kettle and gave the bark the advantage of her prayers, for she disclaimed all unlawful arts.

The wind thus petitioned for was sure she said to arrive though sometimes the mariner has to wait for some time for it. The woman's dwelling and appliances were not unbecoming her pretentions. Her house which was on the brow of the steep hill on which Stromness is founded, was only accessible by a series of dirty and precipitous lanes and for exposure might have been the abode of Aeolus himself in whose commodities the inhabitant dealt.

She herself was dried up like a mummy. A clay colored kerchief folded around her head corresponded in color to her corpse-like complexion. Two light blue eyes that gleamed with a lustre like that of insanity, an utterance of astonishing rapidity and nose and chin that almost met together, and a ghastly expression of cunning gave her the effect of Hecate. She reminded Con the pirate who had been a native of these islands in which he closed his career. Such was Bessie Millis to whom the mariners paid a sort of tribute with a a feeling twixt jest and earnest.

Horse Power.

R. E. N., Toledo, O., asks us to explain the origin and meaning of the term "horse power."

When men first begin to become familiar with the methods of measuring mechanical power they often speculate on where the breed of horses is to be found that can keep at work raising 33,000 pounds one foot per minute, or the equivalent, which is more familiar to some mechanics, of raising 330 pounds 100 feet per minute. Since 33,000 pounds raised one foot per minute is called one horse power it is natural that people should think the engineers who established that unit of measurement based it on what horses could really do.

But the horse that can do this work does not exist. The horse power unit was established by James Watt a century ago, and the figures were fixed in a curious way. Watt found that the average horse of his district could raise 22,000 pounds one foot per minute. This then, was an actual horse power.

At this time Watt was employed in the manufacture of engines, and customers were so hard to find that all kinds of artificial inducements were necessary to induce power users to buy steam engines. As a method of encouraging them, Watt offered to sell engines reckoning 33,000 foot pounds to a horse power. And thus he was the means of giving a false unit to one of the most important measurements in the world.

James Otis.

S. Y. L., Ilion, Ind.: James Otis was born in West Barnstable, Mass., February 5, 1725, and died at Andover, Mass., May 23, 1783. He was descended in the fifth generation from John Otis, one of the first settlers of Hingham. This John Otis came with his family from Hingham, in Norfolk, England, in June, 1635. James Otis graduated at Harvard in 1743. He studied law in the office of Jeremiah Gridley, a distinguished lawyer of the day, and was admitted to the bar in 1748. He removed to Boston in 1750 and soon rose to the foremost rank in his profession. His business became very lucrative, and he won a reputation for extraordinary eloquence, while his learning and integrity were held in high esteem.

It was in those days noted as remarkable that he was once called as far as Halifax to act as counsel for three men accused of piracy. He procured the acquittal of his clients and received the largest fee that has ever been paid to a Massachusetts lawyer. Mr. Otis was elected to the legislature in 1761 and was active in the promotion of the interests of the colonies as against those of Great Britain. Later in his life he became insane and had but few lucid intervals until his death.

Josiah Quincy.

J. Y. L., Ilion, Ind.: Josiah Quincy was born in Boston, February 23, 1744; died at sea off Gloucester, Mass., April 26, 1775; graduated at Harvard in 1763. Three years later on taking his master's degree he delivered an English oration on "Patriotism," which exhibited his wonderful power as an orator. Heretofore the orations had been in Latin. He studied law with Oxbridge Thacher, and succeeded him in his extensive and lucrative practice, and soon rose to the foremost rank in his profession. After the so-called Boston massacre he was selected, together with John Adams, by Capt. Preston as counsel for himself and soldiers who had fired on the crowd. The popular excitement was such that it required not only moral, but physical courage. Mr. Quincy's own father wrote him a letter of passionate remonstrance that he should undertake the defense of those criminals charged with the murder of their fellow-citizens. The son, in maintaining that it was his professional duty to give legal advice and assistance to men accused of crime, but not proved guilty of it, After the excitement was over Mr. Quincy's course was warmly commended by nearly everybody. Mr. Quincy devoted his life to literary works and legal business competition.

ARE YOU TROUBLED

With an old sore, ulcer, or gun shot wound that refuses to heal up. If so take S.S.S., and become your former self. S. S. S., has cured many such cases after every other remedy had failed.

For Five years

I had a sore leg, which would yield to no treatment—until I took two bottles of S. S. S., which promptly cured it, and there has been no sign of return; this was in 1886.
E. R. BOST, Newton, N. C.

BOOKS ON BLOOD AND SKIN DISEASES FREE.
The Swift Specific Co., Atlanta, Ga.

SICK HEADACHE

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

Positively Cured by these Little Pills.

They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue, Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER, &c. They regulate the Bowels and prevent Constipation and Piles. The smallest and easiest to take. Only one pill a dose. Purely vegetable. Price 25 cents.

CARTER MEDICINE CO., Prop'rs, New York.

Compact of the Pilgrims.

J. F. K., jr., Toledo, O., asks: "What was the compact made by the Pilgrim Fathers in the cabin of the Mayflower?"

"In the name of God, amen; we, whose names are underwritten, the loyal subjects of our dread sovereign King James, having undertaken, for the glory of God and the advancement of Christian faith, and honor of our king and country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia, do, by these presents, solemnly and mutually, in the presence of God and one another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a single body politic for our better ordering and preservation and futherance of the ends aforesaid, and by virtue thereof to enact, constitute and frame such just and equal laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions and offices from time to time as shall be thought most convenient for the general good of the colony. Unto which we promise all due submission and obedience."

This compact was signed by the whole body of men, 41 in number, who, with their families, 102 in all, made up the first New England colony.

Shelley's Case.

E. T. C. Toledo, O: The decision in 1581 by all the judges of England in the case of Nicholas Wolfe against Henry Shelley, in ejectment, involving questions upon the law of common recoveries, is chiefly celebrated by a precise and clear statement by defendant's counsel of a previously well established rule of law concerning the effect of the word "heirs" in certain conveyances, since known as "the rule in Shelley's case."

This rule, which is now regarded as a rule of interpretation rather than a rule of law, is to the effect that whenever the grant admits of, to a man which, if it stood alone, would convey to him a particular estate of freehold, followed by a limitation to his heirs, or to the heirs of his body (or equivalent expression) either immediately or after the interposition of one or more particular estates, the apparent gift to the heir or heirs of the body is to be construed as a limitation of the estate; that is to say, not a gift to the heir, but a gift to a person first named of an estate of inheritance, such as his heir may take by descent.

Legal Questions.

W., Cuba, Kan., writes: "A man dies and leaves a widow and one child of age, no will. What is the law in the following states: Wisconsin, Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas in regard to descent and distribution of property?"

We can not undertake to answer such questions, for this reason: It is impossible for us to have a full knowledge of the laws of 44 different states, and each year to follow up the new legislation in every state. If our Kansas friend will think a moment, he will see how impossible it is to expect us to do so. To answer his question, we should have to write to some lawyer in each of the states named for the desired information; and said lawyers would expect us to pay them for their trouble—it is a way lawyers have.

We can not undertake to answer questions which involve legal points, or which refer to the laws of other states.

Old Postage Stamps.

Mrs. A. R., Minneapolis, asks: "What do you know about old postage stamps? I hear that the government offers $100 for one million, as they make the paper money from them. I commenced and have saved 1,850, but thought I would like to know something about it. I heard, too, that a firm in Massachusetts offer the same for manufacturing bisque dolls. I very much want to learn something more about it."

Neither the government nor anybody else makes any offer for a million old stamps. The story is a myth. The original tale was that somebody would endow a bed in a hospital, or support a heathen child, on a million old stamps. These tales were started by a stamp collector, who, of course, would find in a collection of miscellaneous stamps some of value to collectors. That is all there is in it. Old stamps could not be used to make paper for bank-notes; and to make papier-mache dolls, other paper would be far cheaper than stamps at $100 per million.

Charles Stewart Parnell.

Two Americans, Chicago, Ills.: Mr. Parnell is 43 years old; he has been in Parliament twelve years. He is only half an Irishman; a man who has never figured as a great speaker; he is a Protestant and a landlord. It is his boast that he converted nine Irishmen out of ten to his belief in parliamentary instead of revolutionary methods. He has always been regarded as a silent man, although in the recent conference he showed himself to be quite as garrulous as he accused Mr. Gladstone of being. In his early life he was many times a belligerent, having knocked a man down and refused to apologize for the act, although he (Parnell) was in the wrong.

Old Coins.

W. J. M., New Lancaster, Kan.: The silver coin of which you send a rubbing appears to be a Sardinian coin of 1827, when it was a separate kingdom. The inscription, we think, is: "Charles Felix, by the grace of God King of Sardinia, Cyprus and Jerusalem, 1827." We do not know its name nor legal value. If any one can tell us, we will gladly publish. It is silver, about the size of a dollar.

The first coin you describe is apparently Swedish. We do not know its name or value. We do not recognize the copper coin.

Justin McCarthy.

Two Americans, Chicago, Ill.: Mr. McCarthy is a historian, novelist and leader-writer. He is what the *Pall Mall Gazette* calls a very clever man. He began as a reporter on the Liverpool *Mercury*, and was subsequently parliamentary reporter and editor on the *Morning Star*. He is 59 years old and has been in Parliament twelve years. He rises early in the morning and does his literary work, with the assistance of a typewriter, at that hour. He is noted for his courtesy to every one.

Thermopylae of America.

Reader, Meadville, Pa.: Fort Alamo is so named in allusion to the heroic defense of it made in 1836 by a small body of Texans against a force of Mexicans ten times their number. During the subsequent struggle for independence the Texans' war cry was "Remember the Alamo," the Mexicans having murdered the defenders of the fort whom they found alive on its surrender.

Question of Citizenship.

Subscriber, ——, asks: "Is a man who was born in Iowa, but whose father is an alien, entitled to a vote here at 21 years of age?"

Yes.

Miscellaneous.

F. F., St. Michael's, Minn.: The debt of the U. S. is constantly decreasing.

J. S. McEl., Oxford, Neb.: It would require too much figuring to answer your question.

C. T. P., Green Castle, Ind.: Your question is answered in the Weekly BLADE of November 27.

C. L., Ross, O.: We do not know who publishes the periodical entitled *Forest and Stream*.

C. B., Blue Lake, Cal.: There is no word in English in which q is not followed by the vowel u.

J. W. W. G., Biddeford, Me.: We can express no opinion as to whether or not Maj. McKinley will be the next governor of Ohio.

Reader, Bargersville, Ind.: The expression "fatal" is a rather ambiguous term, but is generally used to express contempt or disbelief.

G. H. H., Bancroft, Mo.: Jay Gould's politics are rather doubtful. He contributed to the Democratic campaign fund in 1884, however.

E. W., Congdon, Neb.: No. 13 Dutch standard sugar is a dark brown sugar, which can be used in cooking, preserving, etc., but is not white enough for table use.

Reader, Henderson, Ky.: There is a provision in the constitution of every state which provides for a constitutional convention, and how often it shall be held.

E. T. N., Moscow, Idaho: Boston is called the Hub only as a joke, Boston people being suptposed to think that Boston is the hub of the universe and the rest of the world revolves around it.

E. L. C., North Toledo, O.: It is possible to learn to read Spanish without a teacher, but not to speak it. We would advise you to consult some teacher of Spanish as to what text books are best to use.

G. S., Trent, Mich.: 1.—The pine in Northern Minnesota is the white pine—the same as in Michigan. 2.—We do not know whether any pine land is state or Indian. Address a letter of inquiry to the secretary of state, St. Paul, Minn.

A. B. C., Galt, Mo.: We should say that the arrangement which you speak of is entirely a private one and that the law could not hold a responsible for ordering Bs mail to be kept out of the box. You do not tell us why A so ordered, and therefore not knowing the particulars, we are unable to state whether or not he was justified in so doing.

W. P.: The expression that "a person did not sleep a wink," is only an idiom, meaning exactly that their eyes did not even blink with sleepiness. The meaning intended to be expressed is, as a rule, not so literal as that.

2. In the expression, "Some pigs said, there was one black *one* and there were four white *ones*," the first word *one* is a pronominal adjective used as a noun, standing in the place of the word pig, and the word *ones* is the plural of the pronominal adjective, standing in the place of pigs.

Schoolgirl, Ossian, Ind.: "The immortal J. N." is John N. Free, whose home is in New Lexington, Ohio. He was a man of considerable attainments but has been mentally unbalanced for years. He wanders about the country, generally calling on newspaper editors, which accounts for the many half-playful, half-sarcastic notices of him.

K. K. K., Ostrander, O.: France has a protective tariff. No country in Europe is free trade but Great Britain. All have tariffs more or less protective, though none has so systematic a law as ours. Turkey has high duties on some imports, but her tariff is a revenue tariff, not a protective one; and she is the poorest nation in Europe in consequence.

C. H. B., High Point, Mo.: Adam had more than three children; see Genesis v, 3, 5. 2.—It is assumed by some that Cain married his sister. 3.—The commissioned officers of the army, in order of rank, are:- Major general, brigadier general, colonel, lieutenant colonel, major, captain, 1st lieutenant, 2d lieutenant. Sergeants and corporals are not commissioned.

The Farmstead.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Running Sore—Left Hind Leg of Mare Swollen.

Iowa Subscriber: You describe mange in your letter, yet it may be something much more serious, and you are advised to call a veterinarian. Keep the animal away from others, clean the stall and harness thoroughly and do not use the currycomb or brush on any other animal. Give an ounce of saltpetre in drinking water once a day for four or five days. If there are any more eruptions on the skin, rub them with flour of sulphur. Then add lard 2 parts, well mixed. Gently bathe the leg with tepid water, and afterward apply to the sore acetate of lead, 1 oz., sulphate of zinc, ½ oz.; water, 1 pt. Mix and apply twice daily, after cleaning the part with warm soap and water. Give the mare sulphate of copper and iodine, of each 1 dr., in a pint of water, daily for a week.

Thoroughpin in Colt.

B. G. T., Michigan: The fact that the puffs (or dropsical enlargement of the sheath of the tendon which passes along the upper and posterior side of the hock joint) may be readily pushed about, would indicate thoroughpin. You do not give age of colt. When an animal is sufficiently old to be shod it should have a high-heeled shoe. Foment the part with warm water to get the inflammation out. After this take of red iodide of mercury 1 drachm, lard 2 ozs. Mix and apply a little to the puff. Wash off each day with warm water and soap. This acts as a sweating blister. After a week's time, rub together extract of belladonna, ½ oz.; vaseline, 2 oz. Paint this over the part once a day. After the part has healed, a bandage over the hock with something under it to give pressure on the part affected will be of service. These kind of troubles are difficult to get rid of.

Rheumatism in Fowls.

Mrs. L. A. E., Clay county, Ind.: The trouble with your fowls is rheumatism. This is caused in several ways—by damp houses, damp grounds, exposure to inclement weather and various other causes. It is hard to cure. Give each fowl a teaspoonful of castor oil. Bathe the legs in warm water, dry well, apply a little soap liniment (to be had at any drug store), wrap the legs with flannels, and give each one-half a grain of opium once a day for five days. Give generous diet. Nothing will cure some cases of rheumatism.

Bony Formation on Joint of Colt's Foreleg.

J. H. B., Michigan: If there is any indication of the part "pointing" or getting soft at any place, poultice with linseed meal. If not, bathe with warm water for 20 minutes twice a day for four days, then rub in a little of this once a day over the formation: Biniodide of mercury, 1 drachm; lard, 2 ozs. Mix well. After a week's time, heal with unsalted lard. Afterward apply iodine, ½ oz.; soap liniment, 6 ozs. The colt should be kept as quiet as possible and the leg bound over with a bandage so that it cannot get its lips against the blister.

Ophthalmia in Sheep.

A. H., Alleghany county, New York: Ophthalmia is a disease of the eye of sheep, caused by cold or dampness. The eye flows, the eye is red, and there is a discharge of pus from the corner of the eye. To disperse the inflammation Mr. Randall recommends giving a dose of an ounce of Epsom salts dissolved in water. Wash the eye with a solution of 4 grains of sulphate of zinc in an ounce of water, and keep the sheep in a dark stable for a few days, or until recovery is reached. The glare of the sun aggravates the ill. flammation, hence the advisability of keeping the sheep in a dark place, where it is free from the chill of the winter's air.

Lame in Left Shoulder—Shoulder Shrinking.

R. R. C., Michigan: Three cases of everyfour a horse lame in the point named is lame in the feet. A horse lame in the shoulder drags his leg forward. The muscles in the shoulder may or may not be wasted. Have you carefully examined your horse's foot for corns? If not, do so at once. Also feel if the hoof is hot around the coronet, or that the frog and its surroundings are in a healthy condition. It would be a waste of time for you to make applications to the shoulder if the horse has corns or has an unsound hoof. If the muscles of the shoulders are the point of injury, take of spirits of camphor ½ oz.; vinegar, 4 oz.; water, 1 pint. Bathe the shoulder well with this, around the joint muscles, after which apply once a day, iodine, ½ oz.; glycerine, 2 oz.; mercurial ointment, 2 oz.; olive, or sweet oil, 6 oz.; mix well. The animal must have perfect rest for four or five weeks. The muscles must be restored, if restored at all, by stimulation.

Mare Swollen From Bag to Front Legs.

S. F. E. (no state): For the dropsical swelling in your mare you did a most unwise thing to rowel it in four places. Give her bran mashes twice a day (do not allow them to get sour) until her bowels become loose (not laxative). Then take of Venice turpentine 1½ ozs.; oil of juniper, 1 dr.; powdered resin, 4½ ozs.; nitre, 8 ozs.; hard, dried soap, 3 ozs., melt the resin and turpentine together, and when cooling, stir in the juniper and nitre. Make into 12 boluses and give one twice a day until all are taken. Feed on good wholesome food. In all local dropsies, great care should be taken that the animal is well bedded, and that all feed is free from dust or mold.

Stubs His Toe—Gets Very Lame When Trotted Two or Three Miles.

H. B., Michigan: The editor cannot say just where the point of lameness exists in your horse. The causes of lameness to which you refer are splint, sore shins, side bones, disease of the knee joint. This may enable you to detect at what point the lameness exists. If found, write, and you will be told what to do. Name date of this paper.

Large Maple Stumps—To Cure Tobacco.

G. V., Oregon: To get rid of large maple stumps, bore holes in the top of them and fill with kerosene. Let them stand for a few months, and then set the coal oil on fire. The stumps will burn up. A quicker way, and one which is now practiced by a number of people, is to take a crowbar and make a hole under the stump. Into this hole put a dynamite cartridge, with fuse. Set the fuse on fire and the stump will be blown up by the cartridge. Tobacco is ripe when the greenish, yellow spots appear on the leaves. This occurs in August at the South and September at the North. The stem of the plant is cut near the ground, and allowed to wilt, but not exposed to a hot sun. If there is danger of this, cut in the morning or evening. It will be properly wilted within a few hours, when it must be carried to the drying house, where it should be hung up by twine tied to the butt end of the stalk, and suspended over poles, at drying distances, with the head downwards. Air circulation is necessary in the drying house, but the tobacco must be entirely protected from storms or winds, as the leaves break by agitation, and rain seriously injures them. It is sufficiently dried when the stem has become hard. In good weather, this takes place in two or three months. Strip the leaves in damp weather, when they will not crumble. They may then be bound in small bundles, and boxed for shipment to market.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mortgage Indebtedness.

In response to an urgent demand, Congress provided that the 1890 census should contain the mortgage indebtedness statistics of the whole country. The mortgages of the past decade have been taken from the records, and the census office reports a total of over $850,000,000. The investigation into purposes for which mortgages were incurred shows that about three-fourths of them were for purchase money or for improvements, and that one tenth was for business uses. The total sum, though an immense one, is not alarming, considering the main causes for which it was assumed.

The total sum is very much less than what was supposed. Two years ago some mortgage statistics were going the rounds of the press that placed the farm mortgage indebtedness of Illinois alone at $1,000,000,000. And the *farm*, not the total mortgages, of Kansas, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Iowa, Michigan and Wisconsin were estimated to be over $4,500,000,000. At that time, it was shown that these figures were largely the result of loose guesswork, and our readers were warned that no reliance could be placed on them. Mortgages are grievous burdens, but the census returns show that they are not nearly as great as depicted. —[Farm and Fireside.

Profitable Poultry Keeping.

I know that the best paying poultry plants are those located near large cities. Why do they succeed better than those at a distance? Simply because the producer can deal directly with the consumer. At Hammonton and similar places the large product must be handled by a middleman, and every poultryman knows that the latter gets the lion's share of the profits. I am not given to bragging over my poultry business, but I will state that I never lost any money at it, and attribute it entirely to the fact that I sought my own market in the cities.

I know of two ladies who carry on an egg farm some thirteen miles from New York city. They keep from three hundred to four hundred Leghorn hens, and the egg product is sold within a radius of one mile from their own home at an average price of 40 cents per dozen. This business is their sole dependence for a living, and they have succeeded admirably, and live in good style. The same could be said of broilers if care is given to favored locations, but I will not advise any man to rush into this business. Combining eggs and broilers is a safer road, but before engaging in the poultry business as an exclusive means of support, a person must learn by experience the drawbacks that are plentiful. No man having a good position should leave it until safely fortified with the knowledge that he can make poultry pay. Poultry will pay, but a man with a family to support should carefully consider his living expenses before engaging in the business. The hens may pay a fair profit and yet the income would not cover the living expenses.—[Ohio Poultry Journal.

New Way to Plant Wheat.

Col. Wirt M. Hughes returned yesterday morning from northwestern Kansas, where he spent a week with his parents. "The farmers in that section," said he, "are trying a new plan of raising wheat, and if it proves successful, the grassy prairies on those extensive plains will soon be converted into wheat fields. The scheme is to plant wheat on the prairie without breaking the soil with plows. It is accomplished by means of traction engines, attached to which are little subsoil plows and a wheat drill. There are fifteen little shovels or subsoil plows attached to each engine, and these serve to tear the sod enough to allow the drill to plant the seed.

"The prairies in that section are covered with buffalo grass and it never grows very high, so if the wheat crop ever matures it can be reaped easily. The shade of the wheat will also kill the grass, so it is claimed by the farmers, so that the second crop will be more easily put in than the first. One farmer who tried this scheme on a very small scale last fall reaped a good crop this year, and this fall he intended planting four sections of prairie with wheat in this manner. Aside from this there are other farmers who are trying the same scheme. There was more wheat planted in Western Kansas this fall than ever before." —[Kansas City Times.

BY THE MORNING LIGHT.

Oh, glad and red, the light of morn
Across the field of battle broke,
And showed the waste of trampled corn
And smoldering farmsteads wrapped in smoke;
And cold and stark the soldier lay,
Shot down beside his shattered gun;
And grimly splashed with blood and clay,
His face looked ghastly in the sun.

Oh, glad and red, the morning shone
In happy England far away;
Where knelt a bright-haired little one
Beside her mother's knee to pray,
And prompting each fond faltering word,
The soldier's wife was glad and smiled;
She knew not 'twas a widow heard
The prattle of an orphan child.

Oh, glad and red, oh, glad and red,
The morning light glowed everywhere;
And one beam touched the father dead,
And one the child who knelt in prayer;
And from the trampled corn and clay
A skylark sprung with joyous breast,
For shot and shell had spared that day
It's four brown eggs and little nest.
—[Washington Post.

SYRUP of FIGS

ONE ENJOYS

Both the method and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, cleanses the system effectually, dispels colds, headaches and fevers and cures habitual constipation. Syrup of Figs is the only remedy of its kind ever produced, pleasing to the taste and acceptable to the stomach, prompt in its action and truly beneficial in its effects, prepared only from the most healthy and agreeable substances, its many excellent qualities commend it to all and have made it the most popular remedy known.

Syrup of Figs is for sale in 50c and $1 bottles by all leading druggists. Any reliable druggist who may not have it on hand will procure it promptly for any one who wishes to try it. Do not accept any substitute.

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
LOUISVILLE, KY. NEW YORK, N.Y.

Does Experience Count?

It does, in every line of business, and especially in compounding and preparing medicines. This is illustrated in the great superiority of Hood's Sarsaparilla over other preparations, as shown by the remarkable cures it has accomplished.

The head of the firm of C. I. Hood & Co. is a thoroughly competent and experienced pharmacist, having devoted his whole life to the study and actual preparation of medicines. He is also a member of the Massachusetts and American Pharmaceutical Associations, and continues actively devoted to supervising the preparation of and managing the business connected with, Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Hence the superiority and peculiar merit of Hood's Sarsaparilla is built upon the most substantial foundation. In its preparation there is represented all the knowledge which modern research in medical science has developed, combined with long experience, brainwork, and experiment. It is only necessary to give this medicine a fair trial to realize its great curnative value.

Disappointing.

Coughton (to beautiful girl whom he has rescued from drowning)—"I see you are fair and bewitching, but I cannot woo and win you. I am married."

Beautiful Girl—"But, George, it is I, your own wife."

"Pshaw! I never did have a real romance in my life."—[Spare Moments.

—Man is often deceived in the age of a woman by her gray hair. Ladies, you can appear young and prevent this grayness by using Hall's Hair Renewer.

The Sunday School.

God's Care of Elijah.

LESSON III., SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 1891.

Golden text—They that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing.—Psa. 34:10.

LESSON TEXT.

(1 Kings 17:1-16.)

1. And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, as the Lord God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.

2. And the word of the Lord came unto him, saying,

3. Get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan.

4. And it shall be, that thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there.

5. So he went and did according unto the word of the Lord: for he went and dwelt by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan.

6. And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening, and he drank of the brook.

7. And it came to pass after a while that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land.

8. And the word of the Lord came unto him, saying,

9. Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Zidon, and dwell there: behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee.

10. So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was there gathering of sticks; and he called to her, and said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.

11. And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand.

12. And she said, As the Lord thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but a handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die.

13. And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son.

14. For thus saith the Lord God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth.

15. And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah: and she, and he, and her house, did eat many days.

16. And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord, which he spake by Elijah.

ILLUSTRATIVE APPLICATIONS.

Elijah said unto Ahab, As the Lord, the God of Israel, liveth, before whom I stand, there shall be no dew nor rain, but according to my word (v. 1). He who stands for God, and who speaks for God, can face calmly and confidently the most exalted, the most imperious, the most arbitrary, of the world's rulers; and he can ring out the prophecies, the warnings, and the commands of God as if he held the very lightnings in his grasp, for the enforcing of the claims of God. Despots, nihilists, dynamiters, monopolists, political leaders,—what are they, in the pride of their power, against an earnest evangelist who declares God's limitations of their rule, and God's purposes through them, and in spite of them? Omnipotence is pledged in support of every believing disciple of Jesus, in the declaration of a promise or a warning of God,—whoever may stand over against that disciple.

The word of the Lord came, saying, Get the hence and hide (vs. 2, 3). It is as clearly a man's duty to keep out of harm's way at the command of God as it is for him to brave all peril when he is so directed. And God's servants are not always to keep themselves in sight of everybody. A parent's tact and judgment are as often shown in avoiding an unpleasant issue with a child as in having firm to enforce a command which is fairly in question. No teacher can manage a class who does not know enough to keep out of a fruitless discussion with his scholars. A good soldier ought to be as prompt to obey the order to "cover," under a sharp fire, as to advance at the command, "Forward."

I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there (v. 4). God is never at a loss for servants to do his bidding. He sends the angels to minister to his children. And again he commands the birds of the air to feed them. When we are told to go into the desert, or into the city, or on to the sea, in the line of duty, we need have no fear that God will not find a way to take care of us there. Help may come by unexpected hands; but it will come. A young Christian worker wants to start a prayer meeting or a Sunday school in a hard neighborhood. He doesn't see how a place for it can be found. To his surprise, the keeper of a low grog-shop offers him a convenient room just over his den. Again, it is the old story of the good woman's prayer for bread answered by the scoffing boys, who, listening outside, threw a loaf down her chimney—just for sport. "The Lord sent it, if the devil bought it."

And the word of the Lord came unto him, saying, Arise (v. 8). With each new emergency Elijah had new directions. God is as ready to speak the second time as the first. He knows where he wants his children; and they are never more ready to be guided by him than he is to guide them. They must not expect to be always in one place. They must not fear that no other place is provided for them when there is a failure in that where they now stand. If a minister's work seems done in one parish; if the employment a young believer has had in one kind of business is no longer open to him; if the sphere of Christian usefulness in which a good woman has served God seems contracting unduly—let the trustful disciple have no fear, but keep an open ear for the word of the Lord, saying, "Arise, get thee to Zarephath."

A widow woman was there. She said, I have but an handful of meal and a little oil; and, behold I am gathering two sticks that I may dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die (vs. 10-12). We don't always know when we are well off. Things looked pretty dark to that poor widow just then. But God was at work for her. Her very extremity was his opportunity. Because she was in so sore a plight, she was to have a prophet for her guest, abundance for her supplies and a place of honor in the history of the universe. Daybreak was nearing, if the night was dark. And that is God's way with his children. His richest purposes in their behalf are maturing through their heaviest trials and their bitterest needs. The very things that we are mourning over, or are wincing under, today are perhaps the very things that in all the great future will be counted for their memory, in the day to come. God is doing the best he can for us. Have we any doubt on that point? If we have not, why should we worry?

Fear not; make me a little cake first (v. 18). That faith which is not just as ready to trust God when the meal barrel is empty as when it is full, is no faith worth having. To the true-hearted believer, God's word that he shall have a breakfast gives stronger assurance than the sight of a full table. What if the times are hard? What if father and mother are dead? What if our work has as yet no reward? What if our prayers are still unanswered? If we can point to a plain promise of blessing, we have no right to doubt its fulfilment. Faith must come first—before the rewards of faith. It is when we have nothing but God's word to depend on that our faith in God out to be strongest. Yet there are a great many Christians who would gladly give God a handful of meal after he had filled the barrel, who would hesitate to give him the last handful, on his promise to fill the barrel when empty.

Neither did the cruse of oil fail (v. 16). They live well whom God feeds. The best cared for persons on the face of the earth to-day are those who trust God at all times, and whose only capital is his promises. Their daily supply is both surer and more satisfying than that of the man who depends on his bank account or his business receipts. The man who seeks wealth never has enough. He feeds on dry meal. The man who goes straight on in God's service, trusting God to support him, has contentment with godliness, which is great gain. He has a cruse of oil as well as a barrel of meal.—[H. Clay Trumbull, in S. S. Times.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE
Relieves Indigestion, Dyspepsia, etc.

Events in the New South.

Mr. A. Norwood is erecting a nest fence around his property.

Mr. C. Durant has our thanks for a fine ripe paw-paw from his orchard.

Some of our boys and men make good wages catching Spanish mackerel with hook and line from the railroad dock.

Sixty-two persons took advantage of the excursion to Tampa Monday by the Mary Disston; but very few went to see the "elephant." —[From the St. Petersburg (Fla.) South Florida Home.

Triolet.

From a barrel of ashes
The sidewalk adorning,
Upon my gaze flashes
(From a barrel of ashes)
The bouquet from Cash's
I sent her this morning;
From a barrel of ashes
The sidewalk adorning.
—[Boston Beacon.

The Vocal Organs

Are wonderfully strengthened by the use of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. Clergymen, lawyers, singers, actors, auctioneers, and public speakers find this preparation the most effective remedy for irritation and weakness of the throat and lungs, especially when these parts have been severely taxed by over-exertion.

"This is to certify that a few years ago I was prostrated by a severe attack of typhoid pneumonia at Portsmouth, Va. My physicians, Dr. Wm. A. Collins and Dr. Wm. Shaw, exhausted their remedies, and for one year I was not able to articulate a word. By the advice of Dr. Shaw I tried Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and to my own surprise, as well as that of my physician and friends, in less than one month I could converse easily. I continued to improve, and have become since a well man. I have often recommended the Pectoral, and have never known it to fail."—George R. Lawrence, Valparaiso, Ind.

"Having tested the properties of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral as a remedy for throat affections, I am glad to testify to its merits."—T. Macmurray, Lecturer, Ripley, Ohio.

"Dr. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral has been of very great service to me. It improves and strengthens the voice, and is always effective for the cure of colds and coughs."—Lydia Thompson, New York City.

"Upon several occasions I have suffered from colds, causing hoarseness and entire loss of

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 1891.

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WE WANT AGENTS!

THE BLADE pays the largest commissions to agents, and offers the largest inducements for clubs, of any paper in the United States, or in the world, for that matter. Any one wanting to make money should investigate our offers. *Everybody* should write for terms to agents at once! Address "THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio."

THE "MONEY-MAKER" SERIES.

Some time about the beginning of February we will begin the publication of the "Money-Maker Series." The first will be on "Poultry for Profit," and will occupy two or three numbers, with full description of incubators, brooders, etc., and directions for raising poultry for market or for eggs.

Next Week

We Begin Our Series of "Letters to Young Citizens."

In THE BLADE of next week we will publish the first of a series of papers on government and citizenship, by some of America's most distinguished publicists, entitled:

"LETTERS TO YOUNG CITIZENS."

The first paper will be "The Expansion of the Republic," by Prof. JOHN CLARK RIDPATH, LL. D. The second will be by Gen. O. O. HOWARD, on "Our Standing Army." One of the series will be given each week.

They will be entirely free from political coloring, or special theories. They are not intended to teach party politics, but to inculcate sound and just ideas in regard to the rights, duties and obligations of American citizenship.

List of Authors and Subjects:

BISHOP A. CLEVELAND COXE. Subject: "Law and Public Morals."

PRESIDENT MERIDETH EDWARDS GATES, LL. D., of Amherst College. Subject: "Politics in Their True Light."

GEORGE W. CABLE. Subject: "The Future American Citizen."

JOHN HABBERTON. Subject: "True Patriotism."

HON. JOHN A. KASSON, Washington, D. C. Subject to be announced.

ALBERT SHAW, Minneapolis, Minn. Subject: "Municipal Duties and Obligations."

WASHINGTON GLADDEN, D. D. Subject: "A Look Forward in American History."

PROF. EDMUND J. JAMES, of the University of Pennsylvania. Subject: "Our Financial System."

SENATOR JOSEPH R. HAWLEY.—Subject to be announced.

HON. J. L. PICKARD, LL. D., president Iowa State University. Subject: "Some Lessons of Our First Century."

WILLIAM ELBAWIM WILKINSON. Subject: "Political Ideals."

GEN. THOMAS J. MORGAN, U. S. Commissioner Indian Bureau. Subject: "Our Indian Policy."

HUBERT H. BANCROFT, of San Francisco. Subject to be announced.

S. G. W. BENJAMIN. Subject: "True Political Independence."

THEODORE ROOSEVELT. Subject: "The Merit System of Making Government Appointments."

HENRY RANDALL WAITE, President of the American Institute of Civics. Subject: "The Church and the State."

THOMAS WENTWORTH HIGGINSON. Subject: "Evils of Sectionalism."

PRESIDENT E. H. CAPEN, of Tufts College, Maine. Subject: "The Education of the Citizen."

TITUS MUNSON COAN. Subject: "Qualifications for Places of Trust."

EDWARD EVERETT HALE. Subject: "American Town Government."

PRESIDENT I. S. HOPKINS, D. D., of Georgia School of Technology, Atlanta, Ga. Subject: "Essentials to True Legislation."

CHARLES H. PARKHURST, D. D., of New York. Subject: "The First Duty of the Citizen."

THOMAS L. JAMES, ex-Postmaster General. Subject: "Our Postal System."

There is not a voter in the United States who will not be benefitted and aided by reading this magnificent series. Every father should consider it a duty to place it before his son, that the latter may understand his duties to the state—not as a partisan, but as a citizen. The writers are all men who stand high in intellect, men noted in the world of action, men whose best thoughts, given in these letters, will well be worth any one's perusal.

Teachers of Youth

should be especially interested in this series, and mention it to the pupils under their care, as well as bring it to the attention of parents. It will be of vast value as a means of arousing thought, and hence be an educational aid of the highest value.

Renew your subscription, and obtain these matchless letters!

A REMARKABLE CONTEST.

If the United States Senate does not fail in its duty, and makes CALVIN BRICE show cause why he should have a seat in that august body, it will be the most remarkable contest of a Senatorial seat, or legislative seat, ever known in history. There never before existed a millionaire with the boldness to dwell in a far-away state and ask for a Senatorship from another commonwealth. Seats have been bought, it is known, and seats have been stolen; but none before has been occupied by an alien to the state from which he has been chosen. It is unconstitutional and the Senate begins to realize it.

A Topical Talker in the New York *Press* says that CALVIN knows it, and the bi-patrial gentleman is getting in line. We give the extract in full. But the enumeration at Lima was June 12, and the one in New York June 6. There are other and stronger grounds of proof which will be brought against BRICE. Says the *Press:*

I hear a pretty direct rumor that Col. Calvin S. Brice will not be allowed to take his seat in the Senate without a contest by Ohio Republicans on the constitutional ground that he was not a resident of the Buckeye state when elected. That Col. Brice has anticipated that such a contest would be made I have had several intimations lately from members of the Democratic National committee, who are in close contact with him.

I am told that the census enumeration will be relied upon to corroborate the assertion that he lives in New York instead of Ohio. Of course, the census enumeration is not proof of residence. But it is corroborative evidence. Colonel Brice was enumerated in New York on June 6. The enumerator was able to secure accurate information concerning his entire family and household to the minutest particulars, including the ownership of the house in which he was living and the mortgage on it.

On the following day he was enumerated also in Lima, Ohio, but as there are no such particulars connected with the Lima enumeration it is fair to presume that the New York enumerator secured the official enumeration. If Colonel Brice's seat is contested on the ground stated it will be the most momentous contest of a seat in the Senate in half a century.

SPECIAL agents of the Land office report that the giant forest trees in California, some of which are over a hundred feet in diameter, are in danger of destruction at the hands of a co-operative colony of Bellamyites. The secretary of the Interior has requested the War department to detail a company of cavalry to prevent depredations by the colonists.

THE PROHIBITION QUESTION.

The year 1890 was one of great gain for Prohibition—not for the skeleton political party called by that name, nor in the way of positive legislation embodying the principle—but of progress in the belief that it is the only effective solution for the problem presented by the manifest evils of the Rum traffic, and the embodiment of that progress in public opinion in the highest form—that of the decisions of the tribunal of last resort in the United States—the Supreme court. The decision of that court in the California case is of the highest importance to the advance of the cause of Prohibition, in that it authoritatively sets down the doctrine that the retail traffic in Rum is not of right, but simply of permission; that the evils flowing from the open saloon are so great, so universally admitted, that the retail traffic in liquors is relegated to the status of an evil instead of a regular business; that it has no rights under the federal government, but is entirely and utterly under control of the state, to be regulated, taxed, or abolished, as a majority of the voters thereof shall determine.

The transcendent importance of this decision is not realized as yet by the masses of the American people. It sets a precedent that will be followed by inferior federal courts in cases that may be brought before them. Whatever of temporary evil may have been experienced by the people of Prohibition states through the famous "original package" decision, was promptly corrected by the passage of the Wilson law by Congress; and the later decision of the Supreme court in the California case has left a heavy balance on the Prohibition side o the national ledger.

The fact that, by this decision, Prohibition is decisively relegated to the category of matters which are exclusively within the power of the state, and which have no standing in federal courts, is the strongest possible endorsement of THE BLADE, which has held the same position for years. Our investigations into the question of Prohibition in its legal and constitutional bearings led logically to the conclusion that the abolition of the liquor traffic must be considered as among the powers reserved to the states, with which the federal government has no concern—save in the territories, and therein only until they become states. We take what we hope is but a pardonable pride in the fact that THE BLADE'S position has been completely confirmed be the highest court in the nation.

Turn we now from the past twelve months and look to the future. While we have unwavering faith in the final triumph of Prohibition in the United States, and can each year note the signs which tell of an increasing public sentiment against the iniquities of the saloon, we recognize that the process of the education of the people in a right comprehension of the matters involved in the problem of the Rum traffic, is a slow one. But by education is the only way in which success is to be achieved. The mere enactment of a Prohibitory law, or the addition of a Prohibitory section to a state constitution is not the only thing to accomplish. To secure such legislation presents difficulties, but it is not a tithe as difficult as its enforcement. To enforce any law, it is necessary to have an intelligent, wide-awake majority of the people earnestly favoring such enforcement, and willing to lend their personal aid to the work, if necessary. With that majority, Prohibition prohibits; without it, Prohibition is a dead letter, and the cause is brought into contempt.

How shall that educational process be accelerated? Here crops out the lamentable fact that there is an irreconcilable diversity of opinion among the adherents of Prohibition as to methods. One section propose at once the nostrum of separate political action—a political party devoted to the one issue. The failure of this method is plain to every thoughtful observer. The "third party" is not the solution of the problem. For ourselves, we lament that the earnest work that has been practically wasted in the futile attempt to build up a separate party was not given to educational work among the masses. The separate party crusade has demonstrated the fact that the great bulk of the voting population refuse to forego their party affiliations to divide politically on the question of Prohibition. We merely record this as a fact proved by experience. The third party has been in the field for eighteen years, and it has accomplished nothing. The Farmers' Alliance has been in politics a year or so, yet it has swept whole states, and has a showing in the national House of Representatives. The contrast is startling, and marks, to the observing mind, the practical failure of political Prohibition.

The fundamental error was in endeavoring to accomplish a great reform at one stroke. Moral reforms are never thus accomplished. The last act, the end which crowns the work, may be sudden, but there must be a long educational period preceding it. The "campaign of education" is a necessity, in order first to have the reform aimed at incorporated into the law of the state; and, second, that the law may be properly enforced, and not stand a monument of hasty and ill-advised legislation, and a stumbling-block to future work.

We know that this insistence on the necessity of educational work is somewhat familiar to our readers, for THE BLADE has urged it persistently lately. We have no apology to make for whatever of repetition there may be, for the point is a vital one. We must educate, *educate*, EDUCATE the people to realize the magnitude of the evils, moral, social and financial, that have their origin in the saloon; we must educate them up to a cognizance of the fact that these evils are inseparable from the saloon, and irremediable so long as the saloon exists; and we must then educate them up to the point of seeing that Prohibition of the traffic is the only possible remedy. When the masses of the people are educated up to this point, it will not need a separate political party to prohibit the Rum traffic, abolish the saloon, and

Pulverize the Rum Power.

THE first bulletin of the United States Board on Geographic Names is is a somewhat interesting document. It was formed to bring uniformity of nomenclature into the work of government bureaus charged with the production of charts and maps. This first bulletin contains a list of 226 names already decided, each followed by the name or names previously in use. For instance, the name Bering Sea is adopted in place of the former Behring, Behrings or Kamchatka. In this instance an appendix is given discussing the orthography of the word. Among the changes noted are these: Chile for Chili, Fiji for Feejee, Haiti for Hayti, Kongo for Congo, and Punjab for Panjob, Punjaub or Pandjab. The list is a good one to cut out and paste in your geography, or other geographical reference book.

MR. PARNELL has retired from sight for awhile, but the paragraph writer is still using his name.

"Oliver Optic's" Story.

The New Serial Written for The Blade by this Noted Author.

We now have on hand the complete manuscript of the new serial story, to be begun in THE BLADE, as soon as EDGAR FAWCETT'S serial, now running, is completed, which will be about the end of January. The new story is entitled:

"A WILL OF HIS OWN,"

By WM. T. ADAMS.

MR. ADAMS is better known to the reading public by his *nom de plume* of "Oliver Optic." The story is one of the present day and of the country, dealing with people and events of common, everyday life. It is a tale for all classes of readers——

For parents,

For young people,

For everybody who likes to read a good, pure, clean story, moral in its teachings, and which will not only amuse but instruct. For what higher, more valuable teaching can the world have, than that evil works evil to him who practices it; that honesty is the best policy; and that happiness in this life is very largely dependent upon our own exertions?

There is not a reader of THE BLADE who will not be interested in the perusal of this story. There is not a family of boys and girls who will not be the better for reading it, and for applying the plain, homely lessons it inculcates to their every day life.

This story is of itself worth more than the subscription price of THE BLADE for a whole year. "Oliver Optic's" books have sold and are selling by the hundreds of thousands. His stories for young people are found in the homes of the rich, the cottages of the poor; they are in Sunday-school libraries, public libraries, reading clubs and the like. They are all pure, interesting, healthful in tone and unobjectionable in sentiment. We believe our readers will agree that "A Will of His Own" is one of the best stories THE BLADE has ever published.

Don't Fail to Renew

Your subscription, so as to get this story, which alone is worth more than the price of THE BLADE for a year.

HOW MUCH CURRENCY HAVE WE?

The currency question now dominates the attention of the American people, for even the perennial tariff question takes second place, especially in the West. It is lamentable that there should be so much misrepresentation as to facts—misrepresentation due not to ignorance, but deliberately made in order to bolster a theory or advance some special view on currency.

For instance, the amount of currency per capita is deliberately lied about. It is asserted that it is less than $12. This is a lie, we repeat, because the facts as to circulation are easily ascertainable. The amount of gold and silver certificates and legal tender notes (greenbacks) is reported officially every day; the amount of national bank notes is reported weekly; the additional coinage of gold and silver, and the amounts of each imported and exported, and remaining in the treasury, are reported every month. There is no excuse for falsification, when the facts are so easily ascertainable.

We quote the figures of the last complete report at hand—that of October 1 last. There was in circulation then, outside the treasury, $1,498,000,000 in currency of various kinds, divided as follows:

Gold coin	$ 386,000,000
" certificates	158,100,000
Silver dollars	62,100,000
" certificates	309,300,000
Legal tenders	348,000,000
Bank notes	177,300,000
Subsidiary silver	66,300,000
Total	$1,498,000,000

Hence, by the official reports, there was, on October 1 last, a circulation of $19.13 per capita, not counting the amount in the treasury and in the national banks, which was $4.80 per capita. Since that date, the net increase in circulation has raised the above total to $1,510,000,000. The population of the United States by the census is 62,622,250, which gives a fraction over $24 per capita in circulation. There can be no successful dispute of these facts.

Nor can it be said that these figures are "doctored"; for it is to be remembered that, in 1884, the Democratic cry was, "Open the books," and people were led to believe that the accounts of the government, if examined, would show fraud and falsification. Well, a Democratic administration was elected; the Treasury and every other department was put in Democratic hands, and for four years there was an exhaustive search for falsification, and *not one item was found.* He who stands up to dispute official records which were verified by officers of the opposing party, shows that he desires to believe a lie.

OUR BOOKS.

We have cleared our shelves of all the books we formerly handled, except two, viz:

"Health and Beauty," and
"Social Etiquette,"

both by Miss EMILY S. BOUTON. We have only about 200 copies of each of these, which is hardly enough for the holiday trade.

Both books are beautifully bound, and make admirable Christmas presents. We will send a copy of either by mail, postpaid, for *one dollar.* Please send in your orders at once, for if you delay they will all be gone; and we shall not print another edition of either this year. Address all orders: "THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio."

AND now another army of heirs are about to attempt to recover an old "estate" of some 34 acres of land on Broadway, about Wall street, New York city. The descendants of one ROBERT EDWARDS are making the effort. The story is the same old "chestnut" of a 99-year lease, unrenewed; and they hope to recover possession, in spite of the fact that the property has been in the possession of others for some 85 years without dispute. THE BLADE respectfully advises all persons who trace their descent from ROBERT EDWARDS not to part with their money to pay lawyers to prosecute this shadowy "claim." Twenty-one years of undisputed possession gives a perfect title to real estate by the common law, and no court will rule otherwise.

IT is whispered about that Mr. CLEVELAND is finding a lion in the path where he presumed he had friends—that the Democratic national committee is anti-Cleveland in feeling. It is declared that the majority of the members of that body as at present constituted, are not only not committed to the ex-President, but at the present time doubt his availability. Regarding BRICE, the chairman, it is said that he is trying to observe a position of strict neutrality between CLEVELAND and HILL, but he feels most kindly toward the latter.

CALVIN S. BRICE on his last trip to Washington a few days ago registered as from Lima, O. What right had he to do this when he has no more residence in that town than the tramp at the Helping Hand Mission? Registering from Lima won't help BRICE nor allow the New York leopard to change his spots.

WHAT THE SILVER QUESTION REALLY IS.

The prediction is freely made that a free silver coinage measure will probably be passed by the present Congress, or failing that, certainly by the Fifty-second. This is not because a majority of the members of both houses really believe in it, but because some of them know that their political careers will be cut short by their constituents if they oppose the measure.

It is a matter of regret that "free silver coinage" should be made a party shibboleth, for it is a question not to be decided by popular clamor, but by statesmanship and financial knowledge. That it is a difficult one upon which to be certain of results is admitted by all thinking men. Let us state it as plainly as possible, and indicate the difficult points in the problem.

The standard silver dollar of 412½ grains contains 371¼ grains of pure silver. This is worth about 82 cents at the present price of silver. It is proposed that any one having silver bullion may take it to the United States mint and have it coined into dollars. For every 82 cents' worth of bullion the holder would receive a silver dollar, making a profit of 18 cents on each 371¼ grains of his silver. The silver dollar is to be a legal tender for all purposes.

The opponents of free coinage declare that, while this would benefit the silver-mine owners—give them a bonanza, in fact—it would be dishonest in that it would compel every creditor receiving his pay, every workman receiving his wages, to take a coin as a dollar that is worth only 82 cents, thus defrauding him of 18 cents on every $1; and it is further argued that the inevitable result would be to practically reduce the purchasing power of the dollar to 82 cents, and to drive gold out of circulation entirely, making it an article of merchandise, selling at a premium of 18 per cent.

Now, these results would follow, it can not be successfully denied, if silver remained at the same price in the world's markets. But would the bullion value remain the same? On the correct answer to this question hangs the whole matter. Is is a fact known to all that the market price of any article depends on the ratio between supply and demand. The silver men declare that the supply would remain practically the same, and that the increased demand for silver for coinage would cause its market value to advance so that 371¼ grains would be worth $1 in gold, instead of 82 cents, as at present.

If this result were absolutely certain to follow, then we can not have free coinage too quickly. The opponents of free coinage deny that it would. They point to the fact that the United States must take this important step alone, and in the countries forming the Latin Union gold will still remain the gold standard. The situation, they say, will be this: In this country 371¼ grains of silver will be made by law worth a dollar of 25 8-10 grains of gold. If one can buy that much gold here with 371¼ grains of silver, and buy abroad about 438 grains of silver with the same gold, it is absolutely certain that our gold will be sent abroad as rapidly as possible to purchase foreign silver, which will at once find its way to the mint for free coinage.

Then, too, they point out that every holder of gold coin would hoard it immediately, which would withdraw it all from circulation, bringing on a sudden contraction of the currency to the amount of about five hundred million dollars. Such a contraction, every one knows, would bring a panic and an era of hard times. All this is probable, unless the free coinage act would bring the price of silver up to par with gold, as its friends say it will, and its opponents declare it will not.

It should be clear to every reader of the above that the whole matter hangs on what the price of silver would be, should a free coinage act pass. One side says it would rise to a parity with gold; the other that it would not. There is no way, that we are aware, of determining with absolute certainty which is right.

As throwing some light on the whole subject, we will add that Dr. SOETBEER, a German statistician, gives as the result of his investigations that silver has been steadily decreasing in value ever since the first century following the discovery of America, when 11½ ounces of silver equalled one ounce of gold in value. During this century the ratio has never been less than 15 to 1, and steadily increased until 1888, when the ratio was about 22 to 1. Our coinage ratio, it is to be remembered, is 16 to 1. The decrease in the value of silver as compared with gold, Dr. SOETBEER says, seems to have been due to a great extent to the large increase in the annual output of the American mines, which in 1861 was only $2,000,000, and in 1888 was $59,159,000.

FORTY-ONE YEARS OF PROSPERITY.

Every thoughtful man of the present day is as careful to insure his life for the benefit of his wife and children as he is to insure his house against fire. The fact is now understood that the number of deaths per year bears a definite ratio to the total population, and that this ratio remains practicaHy the same from year to year, thus making it a perfectly certain basis on which to compute the rate of insurance necessary to make life insurance a safe business.

Elsewhere in this issue of THE BLADE will be found the 41st annual statement of the United States Life Insurance company of New York city. For the long period of 41 years this substantial company has been in business, and its prosperity is the surest evidence of careful and economical management. Read the financial showing. It is certainly satisfactory to those insured in the company, and should also be so to the steadily widening circle of those who are seeking a reliable, safe company in which to insure their lives.

The board of directors embraces some of the best known business men of New York City—careful, prudent men, yet enterprising, who conduct the company on safe and conservative lines. We commend it to all who are seeking insurance. It pays death losses promptly, without discount, as soon as proof of death is received. He is not a prudent man who fails to provide for his family; and no provision is so safe, so profitable, as a policy in a reliable first-class life insurance company, like the United States Life. Read the statement on 5th page.

The Illinois Democrats are in a very vexatious predicament. They have a vote or two more than the Republicans in the legislature on joint ballot, but there are three Farmers' Alliance members who hold the balance of power. The Democrats desire to elect JOHN M. PALMER to the United States Senate, but do not see their way clear to do so. So they elaborated a scheme to unseat four Republicans in the lower House, thus giving them a majority on joint ballot. The Republicans, however, have the majority in the state senate, and they have promptly informed the Democrats that if any unseating of members to compass the senatorship is attempted, they will take a hand in it themselves. It is a case of fighting the devil with fire.

THE MATTHEWS MURDER.

The denials on the part of the Southern press that political hatred was the mainspring of the murder of Postmaster MATTHEWS, of Carrollton, Mississippi, have been proved false. Not only is it a crime deserving cowardly slaughter at the hands of Southern Bourbons for a Republican to attempt to exercise his right of free speech and free political action in the South, but any one who attempts to tell the truth about the matter is in danger. In this connection, the following facts are interesting:

The Chicago *Tribune* sent a reporter to Carrollton, with instructions to ascertain quietly, but thoroughly, the exact facts of the Matthews murder. Carrollton is on a branch road, leaving the Illinois Central at Winona, Miss., some 20 miles distant. The correspondent made his investigations, and there being no train out of Carrollton to Winona until the next day, he hired a horse and buggy, and secured a negro driver to take him to the latter place. At Winona he telegraphed the account of the killing to his paper. The facts of his dispatch are as follows:

James Prentiss Matthews, who less than six months ago was appointed postmaster at Carrollton, was about to enter the hotel where he boarded at noon Christmas day, when William S. McBride, a druggist, stepped to the door of his store and, without a word of warning, fired two loads of buckshot into Matthews's breast, killing him instantly. When Matthews fell his slayer rushed forward with a revolver and shot him four times as he lay prostrate on the sidewalk.

McBride returned to his store to receive the congratulations of his friends. The town officers were so exultant to think a Republican postmaster had been removed that they did not take the trouble to look the killer up. He was allowed to roam the streets and receive the hearty congratulations of his friends for his heroic act.

Carrollton is bitterly Democratic, and Matthews, who is but 21 years old, was a Republican. A number of young Democrats who felt insulted because they were overlooked swore a Republican should not be postmaster. Matthews received anonymous letters of the White Caps, warning him to resign. McBride circulated infamous and untrue stories about Matthews which the latter resented.

The stories were for political effect, and led to a rough-and-tumble fight between McBride and Matthews Christmas Eve. That night several of the McBride crowd tried to induce a negro to murder Matthews, assuring him he would not be punished for the crime. He refused and warned Matthews. Matthews armed himself, but the mayor and sheriff took his weapons away on the pretext that they might provoke the citizens. The weapons of the McBride bulldozers, however, were not confiscated.

Christmas Day he went to his dinner and to his death. Without a weapon for defense, he was walking to his hotel, with his head bowed for protection against the driving rain, when two gunbarrels of buckshot were emptied into his breast, and his dying groan found an echo in the exultant yell of a dozen or more of McBride's friends.

The correspondent sent this story on New Year's Eve. On the next day he was arrested and held in $2000 bail on a charge of over-driving a horse, it being claimed that the horse that brought him from Carrollton had died during the night. He instantly telegraphed the fact of his arrest to Chicago. The management of the paper realized that he was in danger because he had sent out the true story of the murder, and at once took all possible steps to insure his personal safety. The $2000 bail money demanded was sent by telegraph order to Winona; the express office there was ordered to furnish him any additional sum he might need; and the most prominent firm of lawyers there were instructed to see that bonds were immediately secured for his appearance, and that every legal step was taken to insure fair treatment. Not content with this, a message was sent Governor STONE, of Mississippi, reciting the facts and the fear of mob violence, and invoking his aid to stop any possible attempt on the correspondent's life; another was sent Governor FIFER, of Illinois, asking his help; and he also telegraphed Governor STONE, asking his interference.

These prompt measures had their effect. The correspondent was released from custody, but such was the indignation against him at Winona that, on the urgent advice of the United States marshal there, he left the town at once. His life was not safe there, and the United States marshal was unable to afford him the protection the local authorities would not furnish.

Here is the old story of stupid, sectional, Bourbon intolerance, which has covered the South, especially the state of Mississippi, with infamy. Free speech is denied. Political belief opposed to the Bourbon creed is punished with brutal, cowardly murder. That absolute freedom of political action, the unhindered freedom of speech, which is the rule East, North and West, is an unknown quantity in the non-progressive South.

The murder of MATTHEWS, at Carrollton, the home of Senator GEORGE, is the same fate that overtook his father in Copiah county, that state, seven years ago, for the crime of voting the Republican ticket. The federal government should be strong enough to protect its officials, or to punish their murderers. The brutal and degraded tone of public sentiment in that section is fully evidenced by the following extract from the Sheffield, Alabama, *Enterprise:*

The killing of Postmaster Matthews, of Carrollton, Miss., by William McBride, gives emphasis to the fact that even a government official may go too far. Bayonets behind a man does not stop bullets in front of him. The average appointment in the South of the Harrison administration seems to have been made with the one purpose to get all the ugliest men that was possible to be had. These men are covering the administration with slime that disgusts the olfactories.

The red-handed butcher who shot MATTHEWS down in cold blood should be made to pay the penalty of his crime. The man who would commit such an act proclaims himself a brutal coward by the very manner of committing the deed. When will the honest, decent portion of the Southern people realize the fact that this class is the curse of their section, and rise in their might to vindicate the majesty of the insulted and defied laws, the right of free speech and of freedom in political action?

GET TO WORK.

If any state in the Union should have a first-class representation in every respect at The World's Fair it is Ohio. Great in everything which makes a rich and powerful member of the Union, Ohio cannot afford to be outranked by any sister.

Especially should the live stock breeders and farmers take hold of this matter and work in unison and with organization. It is necessary that they should begin now. Michigan and other states have already commenced with organized machinery for the promotion of exhibitions from that state at the World's Fair.

On January 13 and 14 the State Institute of Stock Breeders and Farmers of Ohio is to be held at Columbus, and before it adjourns, action should be taken on the World's Fair exhibition. With proper resolutions and proper action, much time may be gained and Ohio pushed so much more to the front.

THREE hundred of the abandoned farms of New Hampshire have been taken up and settled through the efforts of the Immigration bureau. The families are all good ones, and will add to the wealth of those states. In the face of the free trade analysis that this so-called decadence was due to protection, the occupancy of these lands is important as a denial.

THAT Memphis paper which waved the bloody banner and said that "the response of the South to the cloture resolution should be an appeal to arms," has laid itself open to the charge of intemperance in the use of red liquor in holiday time.

A TARIFF OBJECT-LESSON.

The *American Economist* makes a striking comparison of family living expenses between an American and an English one of the same class. The American figures are obtained from the annual report, for the year ending November 5, 1890, of the Missouri Bureau of Labor Statistics. The bureau made a diligent inquiry, and carefully kept the accounts of income and outgo of 438 families, embracing various classes of work. Here is the one selected for the comparison:

BUDGET OF A ST. LOUIS FAMILY.

CONDITIONS—Family of five—parents, son aged 10 years, two daughters aged 9 and 4 years. Occupy their own house. Earnings of husband, $840 a year.

COST OF LIVING.

General Expenses.		*Food.*	
Fuel	$ 14 00	Meat	$ 72 00
Light	7 00	Bacon and ham	6 80
Taxes	20 40	Lard	12 00
Property insurance	7 00	Flour	28 00
Life insurance, husband	18 00	Bread	32 40
Clothing for husband	55 00	Butter	16 50
Clothing for wife	23 00	Milk	18 25
Clothing for children	48 00	Cheese	14 00
Furniture and utensils	14 00	Coffee	18 30
Soap and starch	8 40	Tea	60
Charity	2 00	Potatoes	7 00
Labor organizations	18 00	Vegetables	19 75
Books and newspapers	16 80	Sauerkraut	2 80
Sickness	6 50	Vinegar	2 40
Amusements	13 00	Baking powder	1 85
Sundries	7 60	Sugar	18 00
	$296 70	Ice	15 00
		Beer	26 00
		Miscellaneous	6 50
			$315 45

SUMMARY.

Income		$840 00
General expenses	$296 70	
Food	315 45	
		611 15
Surplus		$228 85

The *Economist* searched the latest available reports from Great Britain, and selected the following statement of the expenses of an English family of the same class:

SHEFFIELD (ENGLAND) FAMILY BUDGET.

CONDITIONS—Family of five—wife and three children. Man not the best paid, nor by any means the worst, earning $315.64 a year.

COST OF LIVING.

General Expenses.	
Rent, including taxes and water supply	$50 44
Fuel and light	18 73
Clothing and boots and shoes	44 20
School Fence	6 24
Trade society	12 48
Friendly society	6 24
Tobacco	6 24
	$144 88

Food.	
Groceries—sugar, tea, coffee, etc.	$31 20
Butcher's meat	50 44
Potatoes and other vegetables	18 72
Bread	50 44
Beer	18 72
	$169 52
Total	$314 08

Summary.	
Total income	$315 64
Total expenses	314 08
Surplus	$1 56

The above are well worth careful study by every American voter, as they afford an honest and fair basis for a comparison of the effects of protection and free trade on the working classes. Note that the English workman's entire income was only 19 cents more than the American spent for food alone; the latter had $295.70 to spend for other things, and then had a surplus of $228.85, to lay by for a rainy day.

There is not the slightest doubt that the protective system is the only bulwark between our working people and a reduction of our own wage-scale to the free trade standard of England, and, as THE BLADE has often shown, such a reduction would affect not only the men directly employed in so-called "protected" industries, but would make a cut all along the line, reducing the pay of every man who works for salary or hire, whether you call it wages or not, and irrespective of the class of labor in which he is engaged.

THE BLADE WASHING MACHINE.

There have been so many failures in washing machines that THE BLADE has hitherto been loth to offer one in connection with the paper, notwithstanding we have, in the past few years, received hundreds of requests that we should offer such a premium. However, we have at last found one that has stood the test here in Toledo, and given satisfaction to the families using it.

We are now having made for us, here in Toledo, by a leading manufacturer, a large number of these washing machines. It is the best ever offered the public; if we did not thoroughly believe this, we should not offer it. By referring to the advertisement on the 5th page of this issue, the reader can see a cut of it, and read the splendid offer we there make.

This machine retails at $7.00. We offer it with the Weekly BLADE one year, for $5.00. The machine thus costs $4.00, which is a saving of $3.00 to the buyer—one of the profits all our subscribers have an opportunity of making. The machine is carefully crated for shipment, and being of wood is very light. The freight is to be paid by the purchaser, and should not be over 50 cents to $1, owing to the distance.

Also—we will send a washing machine *free* for a club of ten subscribers, and $10.00. Address all letters, "THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio."

THE FOOLISH GIRL.

When will the American girl begin to learn that an American husband is worth a hundred miserable excuses who wear a sickening smile and a cheap brass-mounted, breech-loading title? The latest victim to the craze to marry anything which could afford lions and tigers on a coat of arms and swear in a high foreign key, is CECIL WATKINS, a Kentucky heiress, who became infatuated with one JAMANDO HERBERTO LAVERO. The music of that name fell upon her ear like the ravishing strains of a band of angels, and she married him.

Of course he had noble blood. It fairly gushed through his veins. He had so much of it that he was compelled to put on leeches to keep it from clogging on his delicate brain. Vast estates had hi father in Barcelona, with a peanut orchard in Seville. Mr. LAVERO sold off what visible real estate there was, pocketed the cash, lied in a genuine aristocratic way to his wife, and then kissing her a rapturous good-bye, left with another woman.

How much better it would have been had Miss WATKINS married a true-blooded American. She could have found plenty of these, and not anglo-maniacs or brainless cads, either. But JAMANDO HERBERTO LAVERO could call the turn, because he had "vast estates in Barcelona," and his pa was a duke or a count, or something of that sort. A man with as little sense as WARD MACALLISTER would have been preferable.

THE Washington correspondent of the *Ohio State Journal* declares positively that GROVER CLEVELAND did not write all the speech he delivered at the Reform club banquet in New York on December 23, and that to his certain knowledge Mr. B. G. DUNNELL, the Washington correspondent of the New York *Times*, furnished the brightest part of Mr. CLEVELAND'S effort—that portion which quoted the opinions of Maj. MCKINLEY and other Republican leaders on his famous tariff message. Well, this is better than quoting the encyclopedia. Mr. DUNNELL is a talented man, and, being a mugwump, can write in that particular vein of self-laudation which is the peculiarity of CLEVELAND.

Our China Sets.

The Blade's Offer Being Taken Up By Hundreds.

THE BLADE'S china set premium offer is being largely accepted. We are sending them out by hundreds. Take particular notice of this fact: While, under each offer, a price is made at which we will sell this set (including the Weekly BLADE one year) so low that everybody can afford to buy it; if you will read further you will find terms upon which we will give away these sets—which you will find are even more liberal than the offer to sell; this is because we wish to secure additional clubs for the Weekly BLADE.

Of course, we shall gladly fill all orders for sets in connection with one copy of the Weekly BLADE, because we know there are many who have not time nor inclination to get up a club; but there are others who are so situated as to be able to raise clubs, and we make the most liberal offer possible to them, as clubs are what we want.

The best way is, to enter on the work of getting up a club at once to secure the $20 BLADE dinner set. Almost any one can raise a club of 20 subscribers in a single day; but if you should fall short, you can certainly raise 11, and thus get the 80-piece tea set. Then, after resting a few weeks, you can make another effort and obtain 10 more, for which we will give you the No. 4 set—which, added to the tea set, makes the complete dinner set.

Get at the work at once, for two reasons: first, so as to be before any one else in your neighborhood; second, if you raise one club now, you will get that out of the way, so that later you can raise another, to obtain an additional premium in this line, or on some offer we may make later.

We have a special word to say to the 1,000 and more who obtained the tea set last year, in reply to many inquiries: The No. 4 Blade set is just what you want. It has been made up specially so as to be added to the 80-piece set and make a complete dinner set. So go to work at once to secure the No. 4.

It is a proved fact that the 80-piece tea set, which we offer for $7 with the Weekly BLADE one year, or which we give for 11 subscribers and $11, can not be bought at retail at the stores for less than $15 or $16; and the same holds true as to the other offers.

Read the advertisement on the 5th page. It is really a remarkable offer. If the sets cost us nothing, we should make but a narrow margin of profit. Offered as they are with THE BLADE, we make no profit at all—merely wishing to extend our circulation, and help our friends and subscribers to a first-class article.

Renewals will count the same as new subscribers in getting up clubs for this premium.

Don't wait! Begin work at once!

COST OF THE SUB-TREASURY PLAN.

A writer in the New York *Press* has been figuring on the cost of putting the Farmers' Alliance sub-treasury scheme into operation. There were, by the census of 1880, 2,653 counties in the United States. There are many more now, of course; but he bases his calculation on that number. The buildings would have to be prepared, with grain elevators attached in the North, and cotton compresses in the South. He estimates the average cost of these to be $200,000 each. The total expense of these, with the necessary office furniture, safe for the care of the government funds, scales, etc., he makes $535,874,500. With a government agent at each, at $1,800 per year; a bookkeeper at $1,000, and ten inspectors weighers and laborers at $2 per day, their salaries per year, and of insurance, would be $20,790,400.

Of course these items would not cover all the cost. There would be considerable outlay required by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to supply the notes required, and a large increase in the clerical force in the various bureaus of the Treasury department—those of the Treasurer, the Registrar and the Comptroller. It would require three times the present force now employed at least, and the extra annual expense could not well be less than a million dollars.

We can imagine the tremendous protest that would arise from the people at federal taxation to the tune of half a billion for a starter, and an annual increase of some twenty-six millions for the expenses of the scheme.

BUSINESS PROSPECTS FOR 1891.

The feeling in the business world for the new year is distinctly hopeful and confident. The general business of the country is on a sound basis, the demand for all staple articles is good, nobody is overloaded with a surplus stock of goods, and there is every prospect of a prosperous twelvemonth.

The same thing is true of our industries. The workmen are fully employed, there is a notable absence of wage-troubles of any dimensions anywhere in the United States; manufacturers are confident that the present conditions are sound and stable, and anticipate a continuance of them during 1891.

The financial flurry is practically

A WORD OF CAUTION ON CLUBBING.

We wish to caution those who wish to subscribe for THE BLADE in combination with other periodicals, as advertised elsewhere. *The money for both must be sent at one time.* For instance, a subscriber reads that THE BLADE and another periodical will be sent together for $1.25. But he has already renewed for THE BLADE; so he sends us 25 cents, and requests that the other be sent also. We *cannot do this.* In such cases, the money will be sent back. The subscriptions must be sent at the *same time.* If you are already a BLADE subscriber, and wish to take advantage of one of these offers, induce some one else to subscribe, so that you can do so.

FOR 1891.

Some of the Good Things The Blade Has on Its Programme for Next Year for Its Readers.

We herewith make announcement of a part only of the special features we are preparing for the readers of the TOLEDO BLADE for this year. The first of these is

"A WILL OF HIS OWN,"

A serial story, by the famous "Oliver Optic," who is better known by that name to myriads of readers than by his true name of WILLIAM T. ADAMS. This will be begun at some time about the New Year. Every subscriber whose time expires this fall should renew so as to get this story, which alone will be worth the subscription price for the whole year.

We have arrangements in progress for several other

SERIAL STORIES BY LEADING AUTHORS OF NOTE,

Due announcement of which will be made, which will furnish to our readers a number of first-class stories, any one of which, in book form, would cost them more than the subscription price to THE BLADE for the entire year.

In addition, we are having prepared, at considerable expense, a *special* series of articles for publication in THE BLADE next year, which will be entitled the

"MONEY-MAKER SERIES."

These will give full and complete practical information how to *make money* by what may be called "side issues," which can be pursued in connection with one's regular occupation. We have not completed a list of subjects, but will name a few:

"How to Make Money by Poultry Raising;" giving full directions for making incubators, directions for managing them, for feeding young chicks, marketing them, etc; and keeping poultry for egg-producing exclusively.

"Money in Small Fruits," telling how any one with a spare lot of ground can find profit in strawberries, blackberries, raspberries, etc.

"Cranberry Culture," for any one who has an old mill dam, or bit of swamp land, telling how it can be made worth $1,000 per acre.

"Small Trades," telling how a person who has not the ground or room available for any of the above can make money by occupations that can be carried on of evenings, such as silver plating and replating, nickel plating, and a number of others, by any of which an active, energetic person can profitably occupy his spare hours.

"Amateur Photography," giving minute directions whereby one can do successful work without the aid of an instructor.

And many others, which we are not yet ready to announce.

The "Money-maker Series" will be copyrighted, and will *not* be published in book form, or in any thing else than THE BLADE. These papers will appear at intervals during the year, and will be illustrated, where necessary; minute directions, with actual cost of materials will be given; and every pains taken to make them easily understood by every one.

Remember, there will be no way of obtaining this series save by subscribing to the WEEKLY BLADE; and any one who wishes can, find the way from one or the other, to make many times the dollar THE BLADE will cost for the year.

The various regular departments of THE BLADE will be improved and made better, and the paper will be found still more worthy of the patronage of every one. Don't fail to renew in time!

Sample Copies Free to any Address.

IN BOOK FORM.

"ASBY'S" LAST NOVEL,

"THE DEMAGOGUE."

THE success of "The Demagogue," Mr. D. R. Locke's last and best novel, published as a serial in the columns of this paper, was phenomenal, and long before the story was finished we had many inquiries as to whether or not it would be published in book form.

In response to this very general demand for this story in a permanent form, the great novel has been issued in a handsome cloth bound volume, beautifully printed and gotten up in the most tasteful manner.

Anyone sending to THE BLADE a dollar and a half will be mailed a copy of "The Demagogue," postage prepaid.

For two dollars we will send the Weekly BLADE one year and a copy of "The Demagogue," postage prepaid.

This is an unprecedentedly low offer, and should be taken advantage of at once. Address THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

The New Tariff Law.

The Official Text of the Law, Without Omission—With Notes, Showing the Changes From the Old Law.

The demand for the new tariff law—the "McKinley bill"—is tremendous, and we are asked by hundreds of letters to "publish it in full." It is too long. It makes nearly *four pages* the size of those of THE BLADE.

But, to supply the demand, we are now printing the new tariff law as an extra. It contains the full text of the bill, as it became a law, and as it now stands in the United States Statutes, complete and unabridged.

To make it the more useful, we have added to the different schedules notes, showing the *changes* from the old law—thus making it invaluable to every one who desires full information.

We will send one copy by mail, postpaid, for 4 cents. Send two 2-cent stamps.

Or, we will send 2 copies for 5 cents in stamps.

Or, one dozen copies for 25 cents.

Send in your orders at once for copies of "the new tariff law," inclosing the stamps with the order; and we shall take it as a great favor if you will send, on a separate slip of paper, in the same letter, a list of persons in your neighborhood who do not take THE BLADE. Send their names and postoffice addresses, and we will mail them a sample copy of this paper.

FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 31ST, 1890.

BALANCE SHEET.

Dr.		Cr.	
To reserve at 4 per cent Actuaries' table, (N. Y. State Standard), including dividends	$5,822,532 00	By Bonds and mortgages	$3,738,468 84
" Claims in course of settlement	22,170 00	" United States and other bonds	1,887,180 89
" Premiums paid in advance	2,627 64	" Real estate	156,304 00
" Liability for lapsed policies presentable for surrender	2,067 00	" Cash in banks	69,423 45
" Accrued rents and unpresented accounts	7,791 74	" Cash in office	693 91
" Surplus as regards policy holders	672,298 42	" Loans on policies	181,777 22
		" Loans secured by collaterals	172,203 66
		" Balances due by agents, secured	21,460 01
		" Interest accrued	73,458 04
		" Deferred premiums, less 10 per cent for collection	111,052 28
		" Premiums in course of collection, less 10 per cent	117,519 50
Total	$6,529,486 80	Total	$6,529,486 80

On the former basis of valuation (i. e., American table and 4½ per cent interest) the surplus is $1,028,235 42

DIRECTORS.

Clinton Gilbert, Henry W. Ford, Nathan F. Graves, H. K. Thurber, Julius Catlin, Henry C. Hulbert, James R. Plum, George G. Williams, Anthony Wallach, Oliver P. Buel, Henry L. Clapp, R. Van Volkenbenburgh, Edward P. Steers, Charles P. Fraleigh, John P. Munn, M. D. George H. Burford, Alfred S. Heidelbach, Alfred Wheelwright, Jos. M. DeVean, Francis I. Leland, E. H. Perkins, Jr., A. S. Frissell, John J. Tucker, D. H. Houghtaling, Thomas Russell,

OFFICERS.

GEORGE H. BURFORD, - President.
C. P. FRALEIGH ..... Secretary
A. WHEELWRIGHT .... Assistant Secretary
WILLIAM T. STANDEN ..... Actuary
ARTHUR C. PERRY ..... Cashier
J. P. MUNN ..... Medical Director

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

GEO. G. WILLIAMS .. Pres. Chem. Nat. Bank
JULIUS CATLIN ..... Dry Goods
JOHN J. TUCKER ..... Builder
E. H. PERKINS, Jr., ...
Pres. Im. & Tr. Nat. Bank

Home Office, 261, 262 and 263 Broadway, New York.

J. S. GAFFNEY, Superintendent of Agencies.

All policies issued by this company are INDISPUTABLE after two years.
All death claims paid WITHOUT DISCOUNT as soon as satisfactory proofs have been received.
Payments to policy-holders for year 1890, death claims, endowments, surrenders, etc $657,852 27

	1888.	1889.	1890.
New insurance written	$6,336,665 50	$8,463,625 00	$11,955,157 00
Total amount insurance in force December 31st	$25,455,249 00	$29,469,590 00	$35,895,402 50

Science Causerie.

Do Stars Change Color?

Do the stars change their color? Either answer can be supported with strong and reasonable evidences. Ptomely, Cicero, Seneca and other ancient writers speak of the following stars as fiery red: Aldebaran, Betelgeux, Antares, Arcturus, Pollux and Sirius. A few minutes' observations will now convince every one that the last three stars are by no means "fiery red." Sirius has a green tint, Arcturus is yellow, while Pollux is white. The other stars are now, as they were then, red. The Persian astronomer, Al Supi, describes Algol or Beta Persel as red. It is at the present day as purely a white star as there is in the heavens. Can these discrepancies be accounted for by errors in copying and color blindness? It is certainly at variance with all laws of nature that we have at present discovered that such large bodies as the fixed stars should change so completely in so short a time. For 2,000 years is but a moment to cycles of slow change that are going on, even in the solar system. From the point of view of the above argument, still more improbable are the changes in color recorded within recent years. For example, Schmidt, Argelander and Kaiser are authority for the statement that Arcturus became white in 1852, and remained so for several years. According to Koveslegethy, Alpha Ursæ Majoris, or the brightest star in the dipper, undergoes a slight change in tint every 54½ days. Also Antares and Betelgeux are suspected by some to change in color. Yet no one has ever for a moment thought any of these stars varied a particle in brightness. Scores of such examples could be quoted. But in almost all cases the authority for change rests upon some one observer and not upon the independent observations of several. Whenever the latter does occur many contemporaneous observers are found to vary almost as much as those 2,000 years apart.

Bicycle Ball Bearings.

It will be of interest to makers of bicycles, or any other devices in which ball bearings are used to reduce friction, to know that the English patent covering such bearings has been declared invalid by the courts. Bown, the owner of the English patent, brought suit for infringement against the Centaur Cycling company, which had used these bearings in its machines. The defence was that back in 1877 a bicycle with ball bearings was built and ridden, as well as publicly exhibited at the goose fair at Nottingham, and duplicate machines were also in use at that time. The justice before whom this case was tried declared this evidence sufficient to destroy the patent. This case will be appealed, and if the present decision be sustained, it will have important bearings upon several American patents for similar devices.

Iron From Old Steel Rails.

A new iron manufacturing company has been organized in Pittsburg for the purpose of making a special brand of merchant bar iron by a peculiar process invented by H. Harris, the secret of which is in the sole possession of the company. It is proposed to manufacture the bar iron from the discarded and second-hand steel rails, which are now a drug on the market and can be purchased at a cost but slightly above that of common iron. It is asserted that, by a simple process invented by Mr. Harris, the steel in the rails is easily decarbonized and changed to iron of very superior quality.

The Bacillus of Diphtheria.

Recent researches by European bacteriologists have discovered the germ cause of diphtheria, and have also revealed one fact respecting its origin which is of the greatest importance; namely, that cows frequently suffer from this disease, and that the germs may pass from the system of the cow into milk and thus be communicated to human beings. This is another important reason for the cooking of milk.

A Wind-Flower.

A flower has been discovered in South America which is only visible when the wind blows. The shrub belongs to the cactus family and is about three feet high. The stem is covered with dead, warty-looking lumps in calm weather; these lumps, however, need but a slight breeze to make them unfold large flowers of a creamy white, which close and appear as dead as soon as the wind subsides.

Odd Parasites.

A scientist quoted by the New York *Tribune* says that parasites of a remarkable character are found in the hairy parts of a tiger's feet. They are so small as to be almost invisible to the naked eye, and yet each is a perfect counterpart of the tiger; head, ears, jaws, legs, claws, body, tail, all are there.

Wooden Shoes.

There is a large demand for wooden shoes in the Western states. The purchasers are dairymen, gardeners and farmers. Gardeners' wives and daughters wear them in the markets. The street car drivers of Indianapolis also wear them, finding that by covering them with a black cloth they can keep their feet warmer in winter by their use than in any other way.

Testing Tea.

An excellent way of testing tea is to put a teaspoonful in a glass of water and shake it thoroughly. If the tea is pure, the water will be a clear amber tint, but if adulterated, strongly colored.

Waterproofing Pasteboard.

A very good waterproof pasteboard may be obtained by giving the pasteboard a thin coating of the following mixture: Four parts of slaked lime, three parts of skimmed milk, with a very little alum. A soft brush should be used in applying the mixture and the pasteboard be left to dry thoroughly before using.

Ye Business Manager.

Business Manager great newspaper (to clerk)—George, take down an advertisement as I dictate it, and then send it up. Ready? All right:

WANTED—A man for a pleasant indoor position; short hours, light work, no experience necessary; place permanent; salary, $5,000 a year. Answer in own handwriting. Millionaire, *Great Daily* office.

Clerk—I have it down, sir, and will send it to the printers at once.

Business Manager (a week later)—George, how many answers were received from that advertisement?

Clerk—Eighteen thousand.

Business manager (an hour later)—Good morning, sir. What can we do for you, sir?

Seedy Individual—What do you charge for an advertisement for a situation wanted?

Business manager—Our charges are high, one dollar a line; but you must remember the vast number of people we reach. Why, sir, from one single advertisement inserted last week there were received eighteen thousand answers.—[New York Weekly.

MAJ-GEN. B. F. BUTLER.

He Will Return to the South for the First Time Since the War.

It hardly seems necessary to say anything of the history of Gen. B. F. Butler. No man in the whole nation has been more constantly in the public eye for the last four decades than he. As a successful lawyer and influential politician before the war, as a patriot who was among the first to respond to the country's call at the firing upon Fort Sumter, as the man who gave New Orleans the best government the city ever had, as Commander of the Army of the James, as a Representative in Congress and a leading politician since the war, he has had the public attention constantly focussed upon him. No man in the country has received more praise and more abuse than he, and no man has more warm personal friends and admirers. Many of the South have been particularly bitter against him, and have tried to make his name the synonym for all that was detestable. He will now about to return good for evil, and heap coals of fire upon the heads of his detractors, by a great enterprise to help restore prosperity to the region which suffered so severely from the ravages of the war. He is at the head of the great Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development company, whose advertisement appears elsewhere in this paper, which is made up of capitalists whom he has associated with himself in a scheme to rebuild and develop large portions of Dixie. Early next month he intends to make a tour of the South, visiting that section for the first time since the close of the war—26 years ago. He will go to New Orleans, and all other prominent points, and survey the fields of operations of the company carefully to inform himself personally as to the possibilities of each locality. There is something phenomenal in such a tour by a general whose first visit was sword in hand, but who now goes as a restorer. It will be watched with great interest by all sections of the country.—[National Tribune, Washington, D. C.

Physical Culture and the Form.

New York World.

"Physical culture has ruined my figure," a writer in the New York *Truth* complains. "It has developed the muscles above the waist so that I cannot put my old-size corset on. My waist is as small as it ever was, but oh! those muscles!" The muscles referred to are those between the bust and the waist-line. Possibly this is the reason why so many physical culture girls take off stays—i. e., because they cannot wear them any more; the once trim waist is a thing of the past. The physical culture girl grows masculine in figure.

If Your House is on Fire

You put water on the burning timbers, not on the smoke. And if you have catarrh you should attack the disease in the blood, not in your nose. Remove the impure cause, and the local effect subsides. To do this, take Hood's Sarsaparilla, the great blood purifier, which radically and permanently cures catarrh. It also strengthens the nerves. Be sure to get only Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Counterfeit notes are very rarely taken in the banks of Russia. The tellers are held responsible and therefore exercise keen vigilance.

FROM NUMEROUS SOURCES.

Parnell is so much up a stump that he seems determined to stay on the stump.

The coughs of the wealthy sick fill the coffers of the poor doctors.

The hen isn't popular outside her owner's premises, but she makes quite a spread in her own set.

Cholly—"I'm awfully tiahd of life, don't you know?"

Chappie—"Yaas; such an exertion to breathe."

Do the doctors take a vacation in the summer because it is a healthy season, or is it a healthy season because they take a vacation?

Rural Auntie—"My dear, your mother tells me you are going to get married." Miss de Fad—"Yes, auntie, it's all the style now."

"What a light-headed chap young Fitzpercy is!" exclaimed Mrs. Snaggs.

"Yes, he's lantern jawed, you know," replied her husband.

"Why did you nearly ruin yourself buying Christmas presents? Have you some poor relations?"

"No; I only have rich ones."

"So you called on Miss De Mascus's father last night. He turned out a pretty nice man, did he not?"

"Ye-es; he turned me out."

Mother (exhibiting a Christmas illustrated paper)—"Look, Jimmy, at this picture. Isn't it sweet?" Jimmy—"Yep! But where's the soap advertisement on it?"

A Street Car Conductor's Story.

"One day a gentleman got on my car. He carried an open umbrella hung on his arm. When I asked for his fare he gave me a silver dollar and held his hand out for the change. I counted it out and was turning to go on when he said: 'I beg your pardon, but you have made a mistake. I am half a dollar short.'

"I was positive that I had given him the full amount of his change and told him so.

"'You are mistaken,' he said. 'See, here is the change you gave me,' and he still held the money in his open hand.

"There was nothing for me to do but give him another half dollar, and I did so. I went out on the back platform and the more I thought about it the more I was convinced that I had given him the correct change. Finally a thought struck me and I waited. When he came out on the platform to leave the car I managed to tip up the umbrella as he stepped down into the street. Out rolled a half dollar on the stones. I think he would have thoroughly enjoyed choking me as I climbed down and picked it up.—[Cincinnati Enquirer.

This Was a Wicked Trick.

She—How did you get your rival out of the way at the supreme moment?

He—Induced him to join a foot ball eleven. His mail goes to the hospital yet.—[Munsey's Weekly.

Snug little fortunes have been made at work for us, by Anna Page, Austin, Texas, and Jno. Dorn, Toledo, Ohio. Others are doing as well. Why not you? Some earn of $250.00 a month. You can do the work and live at home, wherever you are. Even beginners are easily earning from $5 to $10a day. All ages. We show you how and start you. Can work in spare time or all the time. Big money for workers. Failure unknown among them. New and wonderful. Particulars free. Write and investigate.

H. Hallett & Co., Box 880 Portland, Maine

10 Pkts. Flower Seeds, 10c. 5 Pkts. Vegetable Seeds, 10c. Catl'gue. J.J. BELL, Windsor, N. Y.

DO YOU WISH TO EARN MONEY BY MUSIC TEACHING?

If you are a player or singer, take a few scholars, even if you do it for nothing at first, begin to teach, send for my "Instructions by Mail to Music Teachers" (piano, organ and vocal), go exactly by them and you will soon build up a class at good prices. I present first lessons in a new light, and show you how to interest people. Detailed instructions every month for one whole year, explaining everything and answering all questions. In fact, I undertake to superintend your work for that length of time, for $10. Highest references. Many TEACHERS WHO WANT NEW IDEAS, PLEASE WRITE ME AT ONCE.

M. N. LEACH,
2005 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

UNCLE WILLIAM'S PICTURE.

Uncle William, last July,
Had his picture took,
"Have it done, of course," says I,
"Jes the way you look!"
(All dressed up, he was, fer the
Barbecue and jubilee
The Old Settlers held.) So he—
Last he had it took.

Lide she'd coaxed and begged and plead,
Serce her mother went;
But he'd cough and shake his head
At all argyment;
Mebby clear his throat and say,
"What's *my* likeness 'mount to, hey,
Now, with mother gone away
From us, like she went?"

But we'd projick'd round, tell we
Got it figgered down
How we'd git him, Lide and me,
Drivin' into town;
Bragged how well he looked, and fleshed
Up around the face, and freshed
With the morning air; and breshed
His coat-collar down.

All so providential! Why,
Now he's dead and gone,
Picture 'pears so lifelike I
Want to start him on
Them old tales he ust to tell
And old talks, so sociable,
And old songs he sung so well
'Fore his voice was gone!

Face is *sad* to *Lide*, and they's
Sorrow in the eyes—
Kisses it sometimes, and lays
It away and cries;
I smooth down her hair, and 'low
He is happy, anyhow,
Bein' there with mother now—
Smile and wipe my eyes.
—[James Whitcomb Riley, in Century.

The World at Our Door.

Omaha Bee,

From all American countries there may be expelled an ample representation of their products and resources, and we venture to think there will be few places in the civilized world that will not desire to be identified with the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus, rightly characterized by President Harrison as an event pre-eminent in human history. The invitation of a great and prosperous and progressive nation of 63,000,000 people will nowhere be regarded with indifference.

No More Railroad Accidents.

First Drummer—"Another railroad accident. By the way, I suppose you've noticed that in railroad accidents it's the last car which suffers?"

Second Drummer—"Ye-es."

First Drummer—"That could be easily prevented."

Second Drummer—"What would you propose?"

First Drummer—"Why, leave the last car off."—[American Stationer.

A Pleasing Sense

Of health and strength renewed and of ease and comfort follow the use of Syrup of Figs, as it acts in harmony with nature to effectually cleanse the system when costive or bilious. For sale in 50c and $1.00 bottles by all leading druggists.

AN INVESTMENT THAT WILL DOUBLE IN 12 MONTHS,

Paying Dividends April and October.

STOCK OF THE

GA.-ALA INVESTMENT & DEVELOPMENT CO.

Capital Stock, $4,500,000. Shares, $10 each, full paid and subject to no assessments.

GEN. BENJ. F. BUTLER, of Massachusetts, President.
Hon. JAMES W. HYATT, Late Treas. of U. S., Treasurer.

DIRECTORS.

Gen. BENJ. F. BUTLER, of Massachusetts,
Hon. LOGAN H. ROOTS, of Arkansas,
Hon. A.U. WYMAN, ex-Treas. of U. S., of Neb.
Hon. JAS. W. HYATT, ex-Treas. of U. S., of Conn.
THOS. C. SMITH, Pres. 17th Ward Bank, Brooklyn, N. Y.
E. J. GARFIELD, Sec'y Thomson-Houston Electric Co., Boston, Mass.
C. W. PERKINS, Cash. Mass. Nat'l Bank, Boston, Mass.
GEO. C. SCHOFIELD, Pres. N. Y. Contract Co., of New York.
L. M. SANFORD, Pres. Bank of New Castle, of Kentucky.

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Hon. JOHN B. GORDON, Governor of Georgia.
Hon. ROBERT L. TAYLOR, Governor of Tennessee.
Hon. J. B. FORAKER, ex-Governor of Ohio.
Hon. RICH. H. BRIGHT, ex-U. S. Printer, of Washington.
Hon. E. H. ROLLINS, Supt. Concord & Montreal Railroad, of New Hampshire.
E. R. TRUE, Cash. U. S. Treasury, Washington.
HENRY FRECHTWANGER, Member N. Y. Stock Exchange, New York.
P. K. ROOTS, Cashier First National Bank, Little Rock, Ark.
F. Y. ROBERTSON, President First National Bank, Kearney, Neb.

SUFFOLK TRUST CO., Transfer Agents,
244 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

THE PROPERTY OF THE COMPANY CONSISTS OF

FIRST. 5,000 City Lots, or 2022 acres of land in the city of Tallapoosa, Haralson Co., Ga., the residue remaining unsold of 3500 acres, on the center of which the city was originally built. Present value $1,084,750.

SECOND. 2438 acres of valuable mineral land, adjacent to the city of Tallapoosa, all located within a radius of six miles from the centre of the city. Present value $122,000.

THIRD. The issued Capital Stock of the Georgia, Tennessee & Illinois Railroad Company, chartered for the purpose of building a railroad from Tallapoosa, Ga., to Stevenson, Ala., 122 miles, that will net the company nearly $3,000,000 of the capital stock of railroad, paying 7 per cent dividends.

FOURTH. The Tallapoosa Furnace, on the line of the Georgia-Pacific Railroad, in the city of Tallapoosa, Ga.,—the said furnace being of 80 tons capacity, manufacturing the highest grade of cold and hot blast charcoal car-wheel iron. Present value $250,000.

FIFTH. The Piedmont Glass Works, situated on the line of the Georgia-Pacific Railroad, in the city of Tallapoosa, Ga., said plant being 12-pot furnace capacity, and manufacturing flint-glass flasks and prescription ware. Present value $100,000.

There is already located on the property of this company, in the city of Tallapoosa, 2800 inhabitants, 2000 of whom are northern people, who have settled in Tallapoosa within the last three years, 528 houses, 15 manufacturing industries, and 40 business houses, schools, churches, water works, electric lights, $75,000 hotel and new manufacturing industries building.

THE INCOME OF THE COMPANY

Will be derived principally from six sources:

FIRST. Earnings of its manufacturing establishments, now in operation and to be built (now $76,235.04 yearly).

SECOND. Rentals of its farming lands, and sales of timber in "stumpage" estimated ($4000 yearly).

THIRD. Sales of its city lots in Tallapoosa, Ga., for improvement and investment (estimated $250,000 yearly).

FOURTH. Working of its mines and quarries, by themselves or on "royalties" (estimated $10,000 yearly).

FIFTH. Profits on mineral, timber and town site options and purchases on line of Georgia, Tennessee & Illinois R. R. (estimated $50,000 yearly).

SIXTH. Earnings of stock of Georgia, Tennessee & Illinois R. R. (estimated at $158,408 yearly).

Total estimated yearly income of company after construction of railroad, $525,633.04.

Total estimated yearly income of company prior to construction of railroad, $339,235.04.

PRINCIPAL absolutely secure under any circumstances.
DIVIDENDS of yearly 7 per cent annually assured, payable April and October of each year.
PROBABILITY of much larger dividends in the near future.
CERTAINTY of a very rapid advance in the intrinsic value and selling price of the stock itself.

PRESENT PRICE OF THE STOCK **$3.33⅓ Per Share.**

ONLY A LIMITED AMOUNT OFFERED AT THIS PRICE, AND SUBJECT TO ADVANCE WITHOUT NOTICE.

The Directors of the GEORGIA-ALABAMA INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT COMPANY have decided to offer to the public for a short time only, a limited amount of the Capital Stock of the Company at $3.33⅓ per share (par value $10.00).

This stock is full paid, and subject to no future assessments.

The proposition which it is based is owned absolutely by the company, and the present earnings of the giant manufacturing plants alone are sufficient to pay a 7 per cent. annual dividend on the capital stock. This is equivalent to over 6 per cent. dividend on $3.33⅓ per share, the present price at which the stock is offered.

One million dollars of the $4,500,000 capital stock has been placed in the treasury of the company for the future development of its properties, and the enhancement and protection of the interests of the stockholders.

It is the stated policy of the directors of the company to pay semi-annual dividends of at least 7 per cent. on the stock (par value). These dividends can readily be paid from the present fixed earnings of the manufacturing properties, without the sale of any of the real estate owned by the company.

The dividend fund, however, will be largely augmented by the receipts from the sale of city lots, rents, leases, &c., and the dividends will be increased as fast as the earnings of the company, from its various sources of income will warrant.

The stock of the company will not only earn gratifying dividends for the investor, but will increase rapidly in market value, with the development of the company's property.

Money invested in this stock is as safe as in the savings bank; will earn much larger interest, and stock purchased at $3.33⅓ per share now will certainly find ready purchases at $5.00 per share early the coming year.

The stock will be listed on both the New York and Boston Consolidated stock exchanges.

Orders for stock will be filled as received, in any amount from one share upward, as it is desired to have as many small holders in all sections of the country as possible, who will, by their interest in the Company influence emigration to Tallapoosa, and advance the interests of the Company.

$10 will purchase	3 shares or	$30 par value of stock.
30 will purchase	9 shares or	90 par value of stock.
50 will purchase	15 shares or	150 par value of stock.
100 will purchase	30 shares or	300 par value of stock.
250 will purchase	75 shares or	750 par value of stock.
500 will purchase	150 shares or	1500 par value of stock.
1000 will purchase	300 shares or	3000 par value of stock.

Address all orders for stock, and make checks, drafts or money and express orders payable to

JAMES W. HYATT, TREASURER GA.-ALA. INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT CO.,
(LATE TREASURER UNITED STATES.)
Globe Building, 244 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.

☞ 80-page Illustrated Prospectus of Tallapoosa, Stock Prospectus of Company and Plat of City, with Price list of building lots, mailed free on application. Reliable agents wanted for the company in every county.

The First Farmer President. We may have another one.

4 WEEKS FOR 10c.

The Rural New-Yorker has DONE MORE FOR FARMERS than nine-tenths of all the land-grant Colleges and Experiment Stations.—New York Tribune.

THE "BEST" farmers' newspaper in the world in Club with the Weekly BLADE, for only

$2.25

As in practical questions, THE RURAL NEW-YORKER is foremost in the discussion of the farmers' relations to government, commerce and public affairs.

J. J. HARRISON, of Storrs & Harrison, says it is the "MOST TRUSTWORTHY of any paper of its class."

"THE RURAL NEW-YORKER has DONE MORE TO PROMOTE THE TRUE INTERESTS OF AGRICULTURE than all the Experiment Stations put together."—Says *The New York Times.*

That it is run by practical men is evidenced by its fiercest rival, the *American Agriculturist*, which says: "We have seen on the farm of the editor of THE RURAL NEW-YORKER, a crop of 134 bushels of shelled corn raised on one acre of land."

THE RURAL NEW-YORKER is the foremost rural paper in the world. Its text and illustrations cost more than those of any contemporary.

It misses thousands of dollars from advertisements by exposing humbug "novelties" in the interest of its readers.

It maintains a practical experiment station.

It GIVES AWAY SEEDS or PLANTS of important new varieties, originated on the Rural Grounds, (worth $2 to $3), to each subscriber.

Price, $2.00 a year. It will be sent on trial

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The Rural Publishing Co., Times Building, New York.

In Club with the Weekly BLADE, both one year, for $2.25
Privilege of the RURAL'S valuable Seeds included.

Address orders for Club subscriptions to either paper.

SEEDS ROSES Seeds, Plants, Shrubs, Vines, Fruit & Ornamental Trees, Etc.

CATALOGUE FREE.

Over 150 pages illustrating and describing one of the largest and best assorted stocks of Seeds, Trees and Plants in the U. S. Best value for the money in our Tested Novelties and Special Low Priced Collections.

37 YEARS. 25 GREENHOUSES. 700 ACRES.

THE STORRS & HARRISON CO., Painesville, Ohio.

GOOD BOOKS

Published by the Toledo Blade Co.

REDUCED PRICES.

In order to reduce the stock on hand we mark down the price of books of our own publication to cost of manufacturing and postage. The books in this list cannot be obtained elsewhere, and before next spring most of them will be out of print. Subscribers in renewing for THE BLADE should take the opportunity to possess one of these books. For a brief time we offer with or without THE BLADE, at the following prices:

"HEALTH AND BEAUTY," by Miss Emily S. Bouton, cloth. Retail price, $1.00. Will mail copy with BLADE one year for $1.80.

"SOCIAL ETIQUETTE," by Miss Emily S. Bouton, cloth. Retail price, $1.00. Will mail copy with BLADE one year, for $1.80.

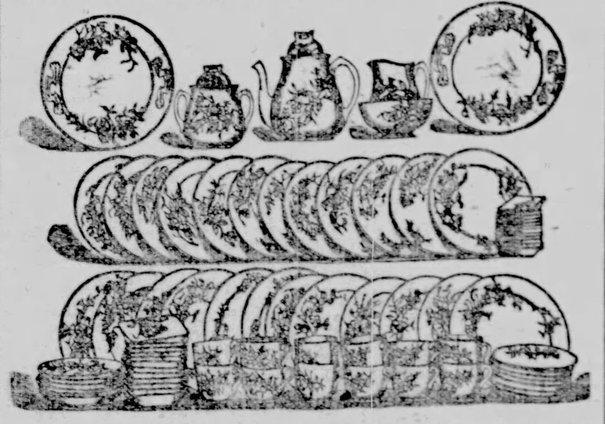
Address,

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

BLADE CHINA.

TEA SETS AND DINNER SETS. A WONDERFUL OFFER.

Eighty, Fifty-six, One hundred and eight or Twenty-eight pieces, handsomely decorated in several colors and gold band. These goods are made especially for THE BLADE, and we guarantee the highest quality of goods, the best grade of workmanship, the latest and most stylish shape of pieces, as well as late and artistic design of decoration. The following illustration was reproduced from a photograph of the 80-piece Tea Set. It gives a fair idea of shapes, but of course does not show the beauty of the ware or decorations:



NO. 1 BLADE STANDARD TEA SET, 80 PIECES.—We call this set (like illustration above) Standard, because it is the same Tea Set we offered last year in connection with the WEEKLY BLADE. We sent out more than ONE THOUSAND SETS, and in every case the recipient received more than he expected. This year we expect to send out at the reduced prices over FIFTY THOUSAND SETS. This set consists of 81 pieces, as follows: 12 breakfast plates, 12 tea plates, 12 tea cups, 12 saucers, 12 fruit dishes, 12 individual butter dishes, 1 round cake plates, 1 tea pot, 1 cover, 1 sugar bowl, 1 cover, 1 cream pitcher and 1 bowl.

THE NO. 1 BLADE STANDARD TEA SET, 80 PIECES, AND THE WEEKLY BLADE, ONE YEAR, ONLY $2.00; OR WE WILL PRESENT ONE OF THESE SETS TO ANY PERSON SENDING US A CLUB OF 11 SUBSCRIBERS AND $11. THE CLUB OF 11 NAMES TO BE SENT ALL AT ONE TIME.

NO. 2.—BLADE TEA SET, 56 PIECES.—This set is exactly like the above illustrated 80-piece Tea Set, deducting 12 breakfast plates and 12 individual butter plates.

THE NO. 2 TEA SET, 56 PIECES AND THE WEEKLY BLADE, ONE YEAR, ONLY $3.50; OR WE WILL PRESENT ONE OF THESE SETS TO ANY PERSON SENDING US A CLUB OF EIGHT SUBSCRIBERS AND $8.00. THE CLUB OF EIGHT NAMES TO BE SENT ALL AT ONE TIME.

NO. 3.—BLADE DINNER SET, 108 PIECES.—We can describe this set by taking the above illustrated 80-piece Tea Set and adding the following: 12 soup plates, 1 eight-inch dish, 1 twelve-inch dish, 2 eight-inch bakers, 1 sauce boat, 1 pickle dishes, 1 covered dish (3 pieces), 1 casserole, 1 comport, 1 covered butter dish (3 pieces), and 1 jug. making a total of 108 pieces.

THE NO. 3 BLADE DINNER SET, 108 PIECES, AND THE WEEKLY BLADE, ONE YEAR, ONLY $4.00, OR WE WILL PRESENT ONE OF THESE SETS TO ANY PERSON SENDING US A CLUB OF 20 SUBSCRIBERS AND $20.00. THE CLUB OF 20 NAMES ALL TO BE SENT AT ONE TIME.

NO. 4.—BLADE CHINA SORTS, 28 PIECES, consisting of 12 soup plates, 1 eight-inch dish, 1 twelve-inch dish, 2 pickle dishes, 1 covered dish (3 pieces), 1 sauce boat, 2 eight-inch bakers, 1 casserole, 1 comport, 1 covered butter dish (3 pieces), and 1 jug. We offer this No. 4 assortment to the thousand or more subscribers who last year bought our Tea Sets and sent many words to make a complete dinner set (the style and pattern will match). We also offer it to those who may hereafter purchase a No. 1 Standard Blade Tea Set, or to any who may wish the assortment.

THE NO. 4 BLADE CHINA SORTS, 28 PIECES, AND THE WEEKLY BLADE, ONE YEAR, ONLY $2.00. OR WE WILL PRESENT ONE OF THESE ASSORTMENTS TO ANY PERSON SENDING US A CLUB OF 10 SUBSCRIBERS AND $10.00. THE CLUB OF 10 NAMES ALL TO BE SENT AT ONE TIME.

GENERAL DIRECTIONS AND INFORMATION.

ORDER BY NUMBER. The goods are carefully packed in box by manufacturer and shipped direct from the Pottery to the purchaser upon our order. We shall order every package sent by freight, unless otherwise instructed. The receiver pays transportation. From Illinois to Ohio, according to distance, will cover freight east of Missouri River. While it may cost somewhere near $2.00 to pay freight to points beyond the Rockies. We do not advise shipping by express. Never would we pay as much value offered for so little money. Twenty years ago only the rich could afford such such goods as we offer here. We guarantee these goods the best stone china in the world, superior in enamel, color, style and finish to the best imported ware, which sells at double the price. We want a set in every home, as a result of the offer, thousands of clubs. These articles will be useful in the home and will please, as a result of the offer, thousands of clubs. These articles will be useful in the home and will please, as a result of the offer, thousands of clubs. These articles will be useful in the home and will please every reader of THE BLADE, no matter whether rich or poor. Any person who will try it can raise a club of ten to twenty for THE BLADE in one day. Get about it before some one else canvasses the field. We are prepared to fill orders promptly.

The Blade, Toledo, Ohio.

OUR CLUB LIST

We have arranged to Club THE BLADE with either of the following publications for the prices annexed (postage prepaid):

	Their Price.	With BLADE.
WEEKLIES.		
Harper's Bazar	$4 00	$4 20
Harper's Weekly	4 00	4 20
Scientific American	3 00	3 20
Weekly Tribune	4 00	4 50
Chicago Advance	3 00	3 35
Am. Bee Journal	2 00	2 50
Orange Judd Farmer	2 00	2 50
The New Yorker	2 00	2 50
MONTHLIES.		
Wide Awake	$ 00	$ 00
Babyhood	1 00	1 50
American Agriculturist	1 50	2 35
Phrenological Journal	1 50	2 35
Our Little Ones	1 50	2 10
Arthur's Home Magazine	2 00	2 50
Atlantic Monthly	4 00	4 50
Brainard's Musical World	1 50	2 50
Cassell's Family Magazine	1 00	2 00
Leslie's Sunday Magazine	3 00	3 50
Harper's Monthly	4 00	4 50
Godey's Lady's Book	2 00	2 40
The Century	4 00	4 50
Scribner's Monthly	3 00	3 50
Harper's Young People	2 00	2 50

We stipulate that we must receive AT THE SAME TIME one subscriber to THE B

HOME TALKS.

UPON CITY STREETS.

Keep Boys and Girls Away—Novels as Educators—Knowledge to be Obtained—Erotic Literature Must be Avoided.

"I HAVE noticed," writes a correspondent, "that in cities people do not take nearly as much pains in training their boys as their girls, but let the former run on the streets day and night, which I think is all wrong. What do you think?"

I think with you that there is a feeling of carelessness in regard to boys everywhere, as to their becoming familiar with street sights and sounds, that does not prevail with girls, and that it is to be deeply regretted. It grows, undoubtedly, out of the idea that these boys, sooner or later, will go out into the world and meet its profanity, its vulgarity, its temptations, and that it makes little difference how soon they acquire a knowledge that these things be. Girls are to be always sheltered in homes, so reason the parents, and there is no necessity that they should learn of evils they will never have to recognize in their own experience. Boys are made manlier by losing their innocent trust in the good, while this loss of faith and purity in girls renders them unwomanly and attractive.

A false reasoning is this, most surely. The whiteness of a boy's soul is just as easily smirched as that of a girl, and the injury it does him is just as great, though it may be made manifest in a different way. The need of clean, pure, wholesome manhood is as strong as is that of the same quality of womanhood. A boy is no firmer in his resistance of temptation than is a girl, and those lines of Pope's are as true of one as of the other, that no matter how monstrous and repellant vice may first appear, when

"Seen too oft, familiar with her face
We first endure, then pity, then embrace."

Repellant as the thought may be, it is yet unfortunately true that men often applaud a boy's first plunge into vice, looking upon it as an evidence of smartness, and a promise that he will be a man of the world. Those who have read that energetic protest against some of the sins of the day by Helen Gardener, entitled, "Is This Your Son, My Lord?" will recall the father who, himself, forced his son to do wrong, corrupting a nature that naturally contained more good than harm, and which, though becoming essentially vicious, rebelled and loathed itself and hated the memory of the one who compelled its fall. It may seem an impossibility, and for humanity's sake it is to be hoped that such cases are rare, but there is too much of the spirit that condones masculine wrong-doing in the education of boys. They come into the world with strong impulses, and blessed indeed is he whose training is directed by a father's wisdom and a mother's pure instincts, and both impelled by love.

No, there should not be so wide a difference in the training of boys and girls. In their early years, the place for both is at the home fireside instead of upon the streets, more especially after night has "let her curtain down;" and that father and mother who let their boys go forth counting upon their masculine strength to resist temptation, do so at the peril of seeing them later grow into a vicious manhood, to their own intense regret and sorrow.

ANOTHER correspondent writes to know what I think of novels as educators, and what are the best.

Some of the strongest lessons in well-doing; some of the most potent incentives to higher living; some of the most powerful teachers of purity and goodness; some of the cleverest exponents of right in the social, political and religious world are found in novels. The most intense convictions may be expressed in a well-told story, and the reader converted to the author's thought without his having a suspicion that a moral had been pointed. A good, strong, pure novel, expressive of high ideals, yet full of human love and sympathy will often do better teaching than a sermon, eloquent as the latter may be.

Aside from the moral lesson conveyed, there is often much useful and interesting knowledge of the manners and customs of people, of historical events, even of scientific matters obtained. The novels of Charles Egbert Craddock give an insight into the peculiarities of the people who live in the mountains of Tennessee, which the majority of people did not possess. Bret Harte pictures life in mining camps in the earlier days of California more perfectly through his stories than anything purely descriptive could do. The Waverly novels tell much of Scottish history, and what could better show Indian life and character as it was in the early days of the nation, before the white man's whisky and deception had done their work, than Cooper's novels. Science, too, is making the novel its handmaiden, and even now we learn that Edison is weaving the story of present and possible future inventions into a story with the help of another polished and successful novelist. What better argument for socialism and against trusts can be found than the books of Katherine Pearson Woods? New doctrines and new ideas are finding the novel the best form of conveyance to the great public for judgment.

There are, however, novels and novels. As the well-conceived and well-written book with pure intent and clean language is a powerful factor for good, so the erotic, sensational novel is harmful. The realism of the latter, the fact that it represents what exists, is no argument for the holding of its pictures of uncontrolled passions and of vice before the public for its evil to be absorbed. We know that there are depths of degradation, the exposure of which would appall us, but because that is so is no reason why a calcium light should make them familiar, when no possible good can come from such familiarity. Equally bad, perhaps even worse are those which, seemingly decent, yet stimulate the animal which is still left in man and woman. That at the present time there should be many such writers, and the larger proportion of them women, make one blush for womanhood; but when we learn that their excuse for such writing, in nine cases out of ten, is that their wares find a better market, we grieve for humanity's sake.

"What novels do I think are best for moral teaching?" Those which I have mentioned are all good. Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney never published a story that was not sweet and wholesome. Sara Orne Jewett, Constance Fennimore Woolson, Mary Wilkins, Margaret Deland and many others, both men and women are never obliged to resort to such means to find readers. And no girl or boy could obtain false or vicious ideas of life from their books.

The needful thing, as I have said before in THE BLADE, is for mothers to *know* what their children are reading; to make certain that stories of doubtful morality, of impure suggestion do not reach their hands. If this is done, and if fiction is not made the only literary food which they receive, there is no question about its being an educator in the right direction. And what it does for the young in the matter of developing higher thought it will do for the more mature, though perhaps in a different direction. Its mission to them may not be so much to educate as to strengthen and to elevate, and we all need every factor that is potent in these directions. EMILY S. BOUTON.

House Furnishing.

A CORRESPONDENT wishes to know how to furnish a $2,000 house, including carpets, curtains, parlor and bedroom sets, and the latest styles of dressing beds. Of course the editor can only give a general idea, as she knows nothing of color of decorations or furniture.

The best carpet for wear is the body Brussels, but if that is more expensive than desired, a good ingrain will do excellent service. If the rooms are of good size use borderings; if small, do not, as they diminish the apparent size. Many people now have a handsome rug made for the center of the room and then the space covered between the edge and wall with a filling, as it is called, in solid colors.

Do not buy furniture in sets. Get a pretty divan and perhaps one reception chair to match, and have the rest odd pieces, harmonizing with the room.

The fancy now is for colors in curtains. If you get lace, then put a fall of silk at the side, looping it with the lace, otherwise some of the pretty striped goods that come for the purpose, or the figured Madras. Hang them on poles, which are run through a broad hem at the top. The figured Indian muslins in colors are very pretty. For the bed-rooms, the white embroidered muslin curtains look well, and their beauty may be increased by following the figures around with some color. Finish the edge with lace, or with the inexpensive tassel fringe. Bedroom curtains are also pretty made of cheesecloth, which comes in all colors. This material may be used to advantage in draperies of all kinds for sleeping apartments, and in one tasteful home, which the editor knows of, it was employed as hangings in the doorways of some of the rooms down stairs, and the effect was charming. The colors were chosen to harmonize with the coloring of the rooms, and the edges trimmed with the tassel fringe.

The painted iron bedsteads are now used a great deal, and they have many advantages, one of which home-keepers can appreciate—their immunity from certain pests that are so difficult to get rid of. The bureau and washstand can be purchased independently in this case.

Some further suggestions in furnishing will be given next week.

Fancy Work and House Decoration.

KNITTING BAG.—Cut two pieces of buckram of the shape shown in the illustration having them about 12 inches long and 8 inches wide. Cover them upon the outside with plush or silk, embroidered as shown, and line them with some pretty contrasting color. Blue for the outside and pink for the lining would be pretty, but the colors are chosen to accord with the taste of the individual. Sew these pieces together at the

top and around the bottom part up to where they begin to slope inward. Put a handsome cord around the edge, a bow of ribbon at the top and a tassel at the bottom. The arm is to be passed through the opening at the sides. Those who knit or crochet will find this very convenient.

The remainder of the edition of "Fancy Work and House Decoration No. 3 will be sold for 15 cents apiece. Send to Miss Emily S. Bouton, Toledo, O., and get one.

SLIPPER CASE.—Cut from cardboard a piece nineteen inches long and thirteen at widest part; taper these to a point at the bottom, and into a rounding point at the top, and for pockets cut two pieces each ten inches deep and nine across the top and narrowed down at the bottom; pink back piece and also pockets around the edge; sew pockets on to back, paint black and varnish. When dry paste scrap pictures on pockets and one at top of back.—A SUBSCRIBER.

CHAIR PILLOW.—Very pretty and inexpensive ones can be made as follows: Get bobinet lace, four pieces, each fourteen inches wide and twelve inches deep; run these with yellow rope silk in diamonds; make the pillows of white silesia stuff with downy cotton batting or feathers and cover them with the bobinet. Put yellow silk tassels across the bottom of each pillow and tie them with yellow ribbons.

Knitting and Crocheting.

Knitting Abbreviations—k, knit; p, purl or seam; n 2 tog, purl two together; n, narrow; s and b, slip and bind; tto, throw thread over; b, bind; o, over; sl, slip; m, make.

Crocheting Abbreviations—l, loop; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; ch st, chain stitch; el en st, close chain stitch; d ch st, double chain stitch; p, picot; r c, ribbed crochet; c t st, crossed treble stitch; sh st, shell stitch; o sh st, open shell stitch; tr, treble; sh c, short crochet.

SCRAP BAG.—Cast on 18 st; k across plain. 1st row—p 1—k 10—m 3—p 2 tog. 2d row—p 2 tog—k 10—m 2—p 2 tog. 3d row—p 2 tog—k 1—m 2—p 2 tog—k 7—m 2—p 2 tog. 4th row—p 2 tog—k 9—p 1—k 1—m 2—p 2 tog. 5th row—p 2 tog—k 11—m 2—p 2 tog. 6th row—Like 5th. 7th row—p 2 tog—k 1—m 2—p 2 tog—m 2—p 2 tog—k 6—m 2—p 2 tog. 8th row—p 2 tog—k 8—p 1—k 2—p 1—k 1—m 2—p 2 tog. 9th row—p 2 tog—k 13—m 2—p 2 tog. 10th row—Like 9th. 11th row—p 2 tog—k 1—m 2—p 2 tog—m 2—p 2 tog—m 2—p 2 tog—k 1—then put this last stitch back on the left-hand needle and draw the other 7 st over it; now turn the work with that 1 st on and k 2—p 1—k 2—p 1—k 2—p 1—k 1—m 2—p 2 tog. 12th row—p 2 tog—k 10—m 2—p 1. 13th row—p 2 tog—k 10—m 2—p 2 tog. 14th row—Like 3d, which is the beginning of the scallop.

CROCHETED EDGE.—First row—Make ch of 9—3 d c in 4th st of ch—ch 1—3 d c in same st—this makes a sh of 6—sh of 6 in last st of ch; 2d row—ch 5—sh of 6 in middle of last sh—sh of 6 in middle of next sh—catch with s c in first d c of sh on 1st row—ch of 4; 3d row—sh of 6 in middle of last sh—sh of 6 in middle of next sh—ch 1—1 d c under ch of 5—ch 1—1 d c in 3d st of ch of 5—ch 5; 4th row—1 d c under ch of 1—ch 1—1 d c under next ch of 1—ch 1—sh of 6 in middle of preceding sh—sh of 6 in middle of next sh—catch with s c under ch of 4—ch of 4; 5th row—sh of 6 in middle of each sh of 6 in preceding row—3 d c under first ch of 1—3 d c under next ch of 1—9 d c under ch of 5—3 d c in each of the next 2 holes—catch with s c under last d c of sh on 1st row; 6th row—ch of 3—catch with s c between second and third d c on preceding row—repeat around point—this will make 10 little loops around point—finish row by making sh of 6 in each sh on preceding row—catch with s c under ch of 4.—MRS. M. L. CASSEL.

Correspondence.

AT THE CROSSING.—Some years ago, one cold wintry day, an aged woman, thinly clad, was seen carefully wending her way, along the slippery streets of a large city, arriving at a crossing, she looked around as though seeking help. One of a group of school boys, observing her, stepped to her side and helped her carefully over. His merry companions chaffed him for his gallantry, to which he replied as follows:

"She may be somebody's mother, you know;
Some poor homeless wanderer,
Out in the snow.
But she is a woman, feeble and old,
With naught but thin garments
To shield her from cold.
There were tears in her eyes—
As she tremblingly said,
May the blessing of God
Ever rest on your head;
And the tones of her voice
Were so touchingly sweet,
When she thanked me for helping her
Cross o'er the street.

"Do not laugh at her woes;
For sweet charities sake;
Misfortunes come oft, to the good and the great.
Some sorrow may lie
In the oncoming years,
That will dim the sweet eyes
Of my mother in tears.
And I'll pray, yes, I'll pray,
That some friends she may meet
To smooth the rough pathway of life
For the feet, that may wonder alone
Through some pitiless street."
And he carefully went,
Over the slippery way;
The kind act, soon forgotten,
By him, in his play.

In a bare little room,
In a city afar,
Knelt a woman that night,
By a pallet of straw.
Her face deeply furrowed
By sorrow and care,
And scanty and white
Were the locks of her hair;
A few dying embers
Burnt low in the bed
And cast a faint glow
O'er the uplifted head;
But her head was illumined
One moment with joy,
As she called down rich blessings
On somebody's boy.

THE LAST ARGUMENT.—Dear sisters of the HOUSEHOLD, for some time I have listened to your discussions in regard to the question, "Should a married woman earn money?" and I answer emphatically yes, if she chooses. In the first place let us remember "a penny saved is as good as a penny earned." I know we have been educated to think, at least American women have, that when they marry the husband is to support and stand between them and everything that is hard. Now we know when marriage was instituted those questions were never thought of. It was only, "is this soul so necessary to the other that the happiness of each would be incomplete unless the twain became one flesh?" So the woman is under the same obligation as the man. There is no such thing as your part and my part, *but our* part. Now if you have not enough to use together, make an inventory of the stock in hand, and the stock may consist only of the four hands and two heads, then you twain as one flesh, make the most of them in whatever way seemeth best. If your tastes are much the same, you could follow many kinds of employment together, then the world does not think so much about it and will recognize the fact that woman was to be a helpmeet; but if you can not so work then do whatever suits you best; but it does not follow because you have become a wife and mother that you must, with your own hands, attend to household matters. There are those who rather do that kind of work for the world and have not learned any other. Do not interfere with their rights.

If you were a music teacher, school teacher, dressmaker, typewriter, shorthand reporter, or whatever you did, why not do the same now? You can still have an eye on every department of the home, and make that the cheeriest spot in the world; will not be worn and out of sorts trying to do that which you have no taste for. But, sisters, let's not talk of supporting the lazy men, or the world might think we had lazy husbands, and we won't admit that, anyway, for we are one, you know, husbands and wives. I mean. Some one might object to a married woman earning money, for the reason it does not leave so wide a field for the unmarried. Indeed, I have often thought of it in that way myself, and in my own state they have talked of passing a law that married women shall not teach school; but it does seem to me there is plenty to do in this busy world for all. We need only to recognize the common brotherhood and all will go right.—A SISTER, Big Rock, Iowa.

ABOUT TRUE LOVE.—In reply to "Vashti" in THE BLADE of October 23, on this subject, I will say I fully agree with and concur in the sentiments as set forth in that article, so far as true love being a necessity to insure true happiness and peace in the family circle is concerned. The writer speaks of the impossibility of true love being transferred and cites the following as evidence: "A great many people marry again almost as soon as their partners in life have passed away, yet this is no proof that love may be transferred."

Also, that this goes to prove that they had never loved—do not have a faint conception of what love is, but that the main motive for again entering into marriage is a feeling of loneliness and a desire for companionship. Let us again quote "Vashti": "There may be a few cases where a person really loves his first wife, and on losing her, marries again; yet he does not love a second time, I am sure."

How is she sure? How does she know? By experience? If not, then she is not sure? If we were to consider the sayings of "Vashti" as correct, how many unhappy lives there would be, as by her showing in the first part of her article, true love is necessary to conjugal happiness; and we all know, that taken as a class, we find a smaller per cent of unhapy marriages among those who, for the second time have entered into the joys and responsibilities of married life than among those who are for the first time traveling this road. This seems to me a proof that, profiting by past experience, a person is capable of making a more judicious choice; and one more suitable than at first, knowing what points of perfection to look for and what imperfections to avoid.

I do not say that love is forgotten, nor would I wish it to be; and do not desire to set forth such an idea, but even though the memory of that love be dear and sacred, it is not what will satisfy and give back love for love to the one left behind to mourn its flight. Having enjoyed the pleasures and happiness of a life of love for a season, there will again come a desire for some to one love and be loved by; as time heals the sorest hearts.

I do believe that love can be transferred; as to my certain knowledge, some of the kindest husbands are ones who were devoted to their first love, and when she was called from time to eternity, in due time (a year or more) they again married and are as true and devoted and have as great love for the second as their first.—FIDES ET JUSTITIA.

Inquiries.

Some time ago, in August I think it was, a lady gave her way of packing eggs, which was to take a piece of paper six inches square, lay the egg in one corner of the paper and roll up, twist the ends of the paper and pack in boxes. I tried it in September and think it a good way. Now I want to ask the lady if they can be packed that way in hot weather the same, say from July, and should they be kept in a cellar? She will do me a great favor by answering through THE BLADE.—A CONSTANT READER.

Will some one please tell me how to break glass jars off around the top. I have read how but cannot remember. I think there is some kind of liquid put in and a hot iron used. Will some one please answer soon?—CLARA.

Will some of the sisters let me know where I could get a pattern suitable for a very stout person?—MRS. MARY CHIVILL, Thayer, Kan.

I wish the lady that gave directions for knit curtains would tell what material she would make them of and oblige a sister.—L. A. V., West Stockbridge, Mass.

Will some one please tell me through the columns of the HOUSEHOLD what is meant by the Swedish method of calisthenics, and how it differs from our methods?—E. FRAZEE.

Will you be so kind as to inform me where I can direct a letter to Drede Domiy, to obtain some of the large purple-husk tomato seed, through THE BLADE columns?—MRS. MARY E. A. C. G. FARR.

The editor has not the address desired, but our correspondent would do well to write to some good florist, and inquire about the seed. And right here the editor will add that it is of no use to send for these addresses, as they are always destroyed after the letters are published, unless in very exceptional cases.—ED.

"A LOVER OF THE BLADE:"—Your question has been asked many times in the HOUSEHOLD.—ED.

Will some one tell me what to do for my 5-year-old child who is habitually cold from the hips down? Rubbing and warm baths do not produce warmth but start a chilly perspiration. After being in bed some hours she usually, but not always, gets warm. Is healthy and stays in the open air most of the time. Please answer this.—HOMEKEEPER.

If she is healthy why do you worry? Let her be out in the open air as much as she likes; give her good, plain food; see that she goes to bed early and then dismiss anxiety. The probabilities are that the condition which disturbs you will disappear of itself by and by. Do not let the child feel that there is aught the matter with her; that you have any idea that she is not perfectly well. Do not impress her with your fear, as you will do her great harm.—ED.

Will some one send in directions for crocheting a cover for a lounge? I should like a design in centre, and different border. Want it about four feet in length.—HOMEKEEPER.

Answers to Inquiries.

If "Old Subscriber" will try gasoline to take axle grease out of wool goods instead of turpentine, I think she will be pleased with the result. Nebraska Sue, try powdered hellebore on your plants when they are wet, and see if it don't kill the lice and worms.—MOUNTAIN FLOWER.

I would like to answer "Truth" in a recent BLADE about Western Kansas. She says it is awful to live on one meal a day. I have lived five years in Greely county, and never heard of anyone having to live on one meal a day. There is plenty of work, and butter is twenty cents a pound. I have never known it to be as low as five cents a pound. As for the bed bugs and fleas, there are not any more here than in any other place in Kansas. There is the least number of snakes here of any place I have ever seen. This part of the country is as healthy as any place I have seen, and cattle live all winter without feeding any. I presume "Truth's" husband is too lazy to work; only sits around town and whittles goods boxes.—T. A. BRAGG, Kansas.

Seeing an inquiry as to what to take on a trip to California I will, if the editor wishes, tell how I twice made the journey, first very uncomfortably and expensively, but the next time very pleasantly and with little outlay—excepting for fare. This is supposing the lady does not go first class. I went in a tourists' car.—HOMEKEEPER.

The HOUSEHOLD will be glad to know about the journey.—ED.

Mrs. L:—The following is a good menu for a luncheon:

1. Raw Oysters. Lemon Wafers.
2. Sweet breads. French Peas. Creamed Potatoes. Jam-Pickles. Coffee.
3. Chicken Salad. Brown and White Bread and Butter.
4. Olives. Cheese Crackers.
5. Charlotte Russe.

The last course may be ice cream and cake if preferred, and this may be followed by black coffee.

A. K.: It was most certainly the proper thing for your husband's nephew to call upon you, when you came to the city where he was living. This he should have done whether you were personally acquainted or not, not only because it was the courtesy due to you as his uncle's wife, but because it was etiquette. It decidedly was not demanded of you to call upon him under the circumstances. As to recognition upon the street, that rests entirely upon your husband and yourself. As he is your husband's nephew and not yours, it would be well, perhaps, to follow your husband's wishes in that matter. If he does not care, it would perhaps be better to bow to him courteously, as to any other acquaintance.—ED.

Recipes.

HIGDOM.—One peck of green tomatoes, three peppers, and three onions chopped fine; and one cup of salt, and let it stand over night, then press out all the water; add half a cup of white mustard seed, 1 tablespoonful of black pepper, 1 tablespoonful of cloves, 1 tablespoonful of allspice, 1 cupful of brown sugar, and a little horseradish; cover all with scalded vinegar.

BORDEAUX SAUCE.—One gallon sliced green tomatoes, an equal quantity of cabbage cut on slaw-cutter, ½ dozen large onions. Salt over night. Drain through colander next morning. Pour 1 gallon fresh water over them, and drain well. In a little more than one gallon good cider vinegar, mix thoroughly 1 ounce turmeric, 1 ounce whole cloves, 1 ounce ground ginger, 1 ounce celery-seed, 1 ounce black pepper, 2 ounces mustard-seed; sugar to suit taste. Pour this over the tomatoes, and boil hard for 30 or 40 minutes.

FRESH TONGUE. Boil a beef tongue in salt water till perfectly tender; skin it, and when it is cooling, prepare the following sauce. Pare two onions, slice thin, and fry a pale brown in butter, being very careful not to burn a fragment. When done, pour over them three teacupfuls of stock—or water, if you have no stock. Add a little salt, a red pepper, a few cloves, a tablespoonful of chopped parsley, a quarter of a lemon (with the rind on), a tablespoonful of flour, mixed in a little water, and boil all well together. Lay the tongue in the sauce for a few minutes, and just before serving, add a large cup of mushrooms. (It may be necessary to add a little water from time to time while cooking). Serve hot. —MARYLAND.

CHRISTMAS CANDY. — Take 1 cupful molasses, pour into a spider in which has been put a small tablespoonful butter, melted. Let boil slowly (stirring frequently) until done. This you will know by dropping a little in some cold water to see when it hardens. Have ready a pint or more of nut-meats, of all kinds that you have. Stir into the molasses quickly, spread on buttered tins, and set in a cool place. This should be eaten as soon as possible to be appreciated. Substituting popcorn for meats makes another delicious and can be molded in any shape. Stir in as much corn as the molasses will take up.

Turtles made of raisins and cloves and fastened on different shaped pieces of pasteboard help to ornament a small tree, and are pleasing to children.—SAMANTHA ANN.

WHY NOT WOMEN, TOO?

PERTINENT QUERY TO BE CONSIDE

"Hopeless" Expresses Herself at Length—Final Closing of the Argument—She Speaks for the Rights of Women.

WHY NOT WOMEN TOO?—I don't want any of the sisters, especially "M. M." whose kind letter in the last BLADE, I have just read, to think because I have written the "Household, just how I feel about secret societies, that I make it a point to parade such sentiments before my husband on all possible occasions; that I sit in sackcloth and ashes, and make myself and home intensely disagreeable to him. No, I try to keep my "feelins" as much out of sight as possible, although I must confess that I did not do so at first. It seemed to me that I *could not* endure the thought that he could willingly do that which caused me such pain, and was ready to shut out his own wife from his confidence, just as he did the rest of the world. That was what brought such bitter misery, not the organization itself, which is one of the oldest and best known in the country. But I have learned, as most of you would doubtless put it, to view the matter in a more reasonable light, and realize that it is worse than folly to spoil what is left of home love and comfort by reproaches and bitter speeches. I have neither organ or piano, couldn't use it if I had, and my baby is rather large to rock, but I always have the supper ready at the usual time on lodge night, adjust the tie and give the farewell kiss as kindly as I can. But after he has gone, I cannot restrain the burning tears or the bitter heart ache, when I think I could not leave him so, if he felt as I do about it. I think I have always had a higher ideal than many women of the perfect confidence which should exist between married people, and I should just as soon have taken vows to conceal anything from the Lord as from my husband.

One sister says there are few couples who have no secrets between them; that may be true, but that does not make it right, any more than numberless murders make it right to commit murder. I agree with Miss Bouton in saying that secret societies do a great deal of good, but cannot join in her declaration that wives have no right to complain or feel aggrieved at the bar of secrecy, for in their case I see no right or necessity for that bar existing. Surely as progressive a woman as she is will admit there is no more justice in shutting wives out of the charitable societies to which their husbands belong, than in depriving them of any voice in the government of our land. I think my husband would enjoy his society fully as much, and I know I should enjoy it much more if I knew I had my rightful place at his side whenever I chose to take it.

Of course I know there are branches in most of the orders which admit wives and sometimes daughters of members, but they have nothing to do with the lodge itself, and their meetings are of a social nature. The only times they are of any recognized value is when, at installations or other public gatherings, their lodge is usually perfectly willing to allow the "Pythian Sisters," "Daughters of Rebekah," or members of the "Eastern Star" to prepare and serve the feast. I don't think I could endure that; if they barred me from the council chamber, they must excuse me from the kitchen. It is simply the masculine idea which has always prevailed; in all affairs of state, in everything requiring thought and mind, let the men decide. When that is done, and ye wish to "eat, drink and be merry," then "call in the women and let them minister unto you." Sisters, it is not just or kind in our husbands to do these things. Contrary to the implied idea of "M. M," I *have* read all rules and regulations I could procure. But when I found this sentence: "Those ineligible for admission, are women, slaves, men of vile character" or words to that effect, could I be pleased to think my husband had joined an order, which not only excluded me, but classed me with low and unclean persons?

My husband is an officer, and I try to take interest in his meetings and talk to him about them. But he is sure to assume a solemn mysterious, air, and say: "Don't ask me to discuss lodge secrets, my dear," and that little sentence hurts worse than a blow, for I would not pry into what he has really vowed to keep secret, for the world. But how can I show "intelligent interest" when it is more liable to be interpreted as "meddlesome curiosity?" If they cannot control the old orders, why do not just and right minded men organize new orders, and take their wives with them into full membership? Surely they be less beneficial or charitable, or helpful in any way? I know of one man, who says he considers that he could not offer his wife a greater insult, than to join an order which would exclude her; and I honor that man more than any other, as the one who is living up to, not only the letter, but the spirit of the vow, he made at the altar. Every one knows the strength the "Farmers' Alliance" is developing, especially in the West, and many are ready to concede it is largely due to the interest the women feel, and the aid they give. The party may never accomplish all it hopes to, but I don't believe it will fail any quicker, because women are taken in. No, I never knew saloons to care for widows and orphans; although I'm not the one who classed saloons and secret societies together; still, I would be glad to pulverize the secret society, *for men only*, alongwith the Rum power.

But, surely, it would be far easier for a sensitive, high-spirited woman to receive aid from a lodge, when she was a member, and it was only her rightful due, than to feel that she was a pauper dependent on the bounty of her husband's friends. But if some men would spend the time and money they devote to lodge work, in providing for their families, so many widows and orphans might not need assistance. It is not respect or confidence in my husband's integrity, which I have lost, but what, I fear, was of far more importance to me; the feeling that his love for me, and the desire for my happiness, was the controlling force of his life. Now, I know his business interests come first, for the desire to build up a more successful business was his main motive in joining. This is not, of itself, an unworthy desire, still I do not think, in his case, it was sufficient to justify him in robbing his wife of her greatest comfort. It was not done to provide for the future support of his family, for that is as well assured as anything can be in this uncertain world.

I cannot regard the lodge as being, as one sister expressed it, a preparation for a higher lodge; neither have I ever had cause to consider it idolatrous. I believe a man may be a Christian, and be a member of a secret society, but I do not believe a man is any more liable to become a Christian because he is a lodge member.

Of course, women should not allow such things to make them unhappy, but we cannot entirely alter our mental make-up, any more than we can make a total change in our physical appearance. We are not all "built in the same way," and of necessity must view things in different lights.

You may talk to your heart's content about a woman's selfishness, ignorance and bigotry, and you cannot lighten her load or make her feel that her husband has obeyed the golden rule, or the law of Christ, "Bear ye one another's burdens," in his dealings with her. As "M. M." says, the help, if she ever receives any, must come from the All Father, but where a woman has, all her life, placed the human love above the Divine, even that hope is denied her. —HOPELESS.

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BLADE TEMPERANCE LEGION.

MOTTO: "Of Ourselves We Will be Masters."

Pledge:

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WILLIAMSPORT, PA.

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Perry Nice,	Ned Piper,
Marcia Parsons,	Lulu Mohn.

Names this week, 18. Total, 80,130.

The above embraces all names received up to January 5.

A Skating Song.

Hurrah for the wind that is keen and chill,
As it skirts the meadows and sweeps the hill!
Hurrah for the pulses of swift delight
That tingle and beat in the winter's night,
When over the crystal lake we glide,
Flying like birds o'er the frozen tide!

Hurrah for the lad with the sparkling eye,
For the joyous laugh and the courage high,
Hurrah for the health that is glad and strong,
So that life is gay as a merry song,
For the motion, fearless, smooth and fleet,
When skates are wings to the flying feet!

Hurrah for the landscape broad and fair
Spread boldly out in the brilliant air!
Hurrah for the folds of the sheeted snow,
On the mountains high, in the valleys low!
Hurrah for the track where the skaters glide,
Fearless as over a highway tried!

Hurrah for the girls who skate so well—
Dorothy, Winifred, Kate, and Nell!
Hurrah for the race we're bound to win,
And the curves and figures we mean to spin!
Hurrah for the joy that wings our feet,
When like dancers gay, we pass and meet!

Who chooses may boast of the summer-time,
Hurrah we cry for the frost and rime,
For the icicles pendent from roof and eaves,
For snow that covers the next year's sheaves!
Hurrah for the gleaming glassy lake
Where the skaters hold their pleasure take!
—Margaret E. Sangster, in Harper's Young People.

WHO DID IT?

The Tragedy at the Old Well and How the Culprit Was Found.

BY WILLIAM DEAN RAMSAY.

(Concluded.)

In a convention held on the apple tree, a few days after the occurrence, these questions were all presented and discussed, and a committee was appointed to investigate the matter, the report of which committee sent a thrill of horror through every breast. It read as follows:

We, the undersigned, having considered the security of the nest from external attack, the strange agitation of the mother and the sullen demeanor of the father, after due deliberation, believe the murder of the newly-hatched wren to have been committed by the parents themself.

We, therefore, bring against Mr. Wren and his wife, Jenny, the charge of "Infanticide with Intention to Eat," submitting the above report to the action of the convention.

BOB O. LINK,
TOM TIT,
JACK DAW.

[Signed.]

Upon the acceptance of this report by the convention, Jennie was so overcome that Robin Redbreast, an admirer of hers in earlier days, hastened to bring water from the old oaken bucket to revive her. And no wonder she was overcome—tender-hearted little thing, to hear herself and her mate accused of so horrible and unnatural a deed.

Mr. Wren, unfortunately, lost control of himself, making threats and saying things that gave offense to his friends, and arousing a feeling of hostility among some that had been disposed to take his part.

The convention before adjourning committed the culprits to jail to await trial, choosing as a prison their own kettle on the well-sweep, for the two-fold reason that the mother could then be with her little ones and that no place more secure could be found. Part of the proceedings was to appoint a number of swallows to plaster up the door, which they did, leaving only a small hole to admit air and food to the prisoners.

"And so I am supposed to have eaten my own offspring," said Mr. Wren bitterly.

"How could even a bird of prey think of such a crime?" sobbed Jenny, fondling under her wings the remaining two.

The swallows had now finished their task, but when the wrens began to peck at the mud from the inside a voice from without informed them that it was of no use; two wens were on guard.

At nightfall a soft coo sounded near the once pleasant abode, now a prison.

"The comforter," said Jenny. "Always at hand in time of trouble."

There set on the well-sweep a dove. She had heard of the misfortune of the wrens, and faithful to her mission, she had come, hoping to bring them solace. And as her gentle voice swelled on the breeze, the little prisoners felt their hearts quicken and revived.

Now, before the time set for the trial, there unexpectedly occurred an event that changed the face of everything.

One day about noon, while the watchers were at their appointed stations of duty on the apple-tree, they saw an old cat climb the post and creep stealthily along the well-sweep. When she reached the end she deliberately let herself drop upon the top of the kettle and then felt along the edges just beneath the lid. The mud seemed to confuse and surprise her for a moment, but she soon scratched away this blockade to the entrance and then calmly put her paw into the hole. Once she withdrew it with a snarl of anger, but after licking the member, again thrust it into the kettle.

The watchers on the apple tree trembled with fear, expecting every moment to see the cat bring forth in her claws a helpless bird. They were in mood, for self, an unworthy desire, still I do not think, in his case, it was sufficient to justify him in robbing his wife of her greatest comfort. It was not done to provide for the future support of his family, for that is as well assured as anything can be in this uncertain world.

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Talmage's Sermon.

TALMAGE'S NEW YEAR SERMON.

Need of a Forward Movement Apparent on All Sides—The Great Revivals of 1831 and 1857 in New York.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., Jan. 4.—Dr. Talmage's New Year's sermon is a ringing battle cry to ministers and Christians everywhere, calling upon them to join in a combined charge on the entrenchments of sin and Satan. Dr. Talmage preached from Luke xxiv. 49: "Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until ye be endued with power from on high."

For a few months, in the providence of God, I have two pulpits, one in Brooklyn and the other in New York, and through the kindness of the printing press an ever-widening opportunity. To all such hearers and readers I come with an especial message. The time has arrived for a forward movement such as the church and the world have never seen. That there is a need for such a religious movement is evident from the fact that never since our world was first swung out among the planets has there been such an organized and determined effort to overthrow righteousness and make the Ten Commandments obsolete and the whole Bible a derision.

Meanwhile alcoholism is taking down its victims by the hundreds of thousands, and the political parties get down on their knees, practically saying: "O thou almighty Rum Jug, we bow down before thee. Give us the offices, city, state and national. Oh, give us the offices and we will worship thee forever and ever, amen." The Christian Sabbath meanwhile, appointed for physical, mental and spiritual rest, is being secularized and abolished. As if the bad publishing houses of our own country had exhausted their literary filth, the French and Russian sewers have been invited to pour their scurrility and moral slush into the trough where our American swine are now wallowing. Meanwhile, there are enough houses of infamy in all our cities, and unprosecuted by the law, to invoke the one hundredfold wrath which buried Sodom under a deluge of brimstone.

That is one side of the conflict now raging. On the other side we have the most magnificent gospel machinery that the world ever saw or heaven ever invented. In the first place, in this country more than eighty thousand ministers of religion, and, take them as a class, more consecrated, holier, more consistent, more self-denying, more faithful men never lived. I know them by the thousands. I have met them in every city. I am told, not by them, but by people outside our profession, people engaged in Christian and reformatory work, that the clergy of America are at the head of all good enterprises and, whoever else fail they may be depended on. The truth of this is demonstrated by the fact that when a minister of religion does fail, it is so exceptional that the newspapers report it as something startling, while a hundred men in other callings may go down without the matter being considered as especially worth mentioning. In addition to their equipment in moral character the clergy of this country have all that the schools can give.

But look at some of the startling facts. It is nearly nineteen hundred years since Jesus Christ came by the way of Bethlehem caravansary to this world, yet the most of this world has been no more touched by this stupendous fact of all eternity than if on the first Christmas night the beasts of the stall, amid the bleatings of their own young, had not heard the bleating of the Lamb that was to be slain. Out of the eighteen hundred million of the human race, fourteen hundred million of them are without God, and without hope in the world; the camel driver of Arabia, Mahomet, with his nine wives, having half as many disciples as our blessed Christ, and more people are worshiping chunks of painted wood and carved stone than are worshiping the living and eternal God.

What is the matter? My text lets out the secret. We all need more of the power from on high. Not muscular power, not logical power, not scientific power, not social power, not financial power, not brain power, but power from on high. With it we could accomplish more in one week than without it in a hundred years. And I am going to get it, if in answer to prayer, earnest and long continued, God will grant it to me, his unworthy servant. Power from on the level is a good thing, such power as I may give you, or you may give me, by encouraging words and actions. Power from on the level, when we stand by each other in any Christian undertaking. Power from on the level when the religious and secular press forward our Christian undertakings. But power from on the level is not sufficient. Power from on high is what we need to take possession of us. Power straight from God, supernatural power, omnipotent power, all-conquering power.

A few men and women in each age of the world have possessed it. Caroline Fry, the immortal Quakeress, had it, and three hundred of the depraved and suffering of Newgate prison under her exhortation, repented and believed. Jonathan Edwards had it, and Northampton meeting house heard the outburst of religious emotion as he spake of righteousness and judgment to come. Samuel Burgett, the Christian merchant, had it and his benefactions showered the world. John Newton had it. Bishop Latimer had it. Isabella Graham had it. Andrew Fuller had it. The great evangelists, Daniel Baker and Dr. Nettleton and Truman Osborn and Charles G. Finney had it.

Several times in the history of the church and the world has this power from on high been demonstrated. In the seventeenth century, after a great season of moral depression, this power from on high came down upon John Tillotson and Owen and Flavel and Baxter and Bunyan, and there was a deluge of mercy higher than the tops of the highest mountains of sin. In the eighteenth century, in England and America, religion was at a low water mark. William Cowper, writing of the clergy of those days, said:

Except a few with Ell's spirit blest,
Hophni and Phineas may describe the rest.

The infidel writings of Shaftesbury and Hobbes and Chubb had done their work. But power from on high came upon both the Wesleys and Lady Huntington on the other side the Atlantic, and upon William Tennent and Gilbert Tennant and David Brainerd on this side the Atlantic, and both hemispheres felt the tread of a pardoning God.

Coming to later date, there may be here and there in this audience an aged man or woman who can remember New York in 1831 when this power from on high descended most wondrously. It came upon pastors and congregations and theaters and commercial establishments. Chatham Street theater, New York, was a scene of a most tremendous religious awakening. A committee of Christian gentlemen called upon the lessee of the theater and said they would like to buy the lease of the theater. He said, "what do you want it for?" They replied, "for a church." "For w-h-a-t?" said the owner. "For a church," was the reply. The owner said, "You may have it and I will give a thousand dollars to help you on with your work."

The bar-room of the theater was turned into a prayer-room, and 800 persons were present at the first meeting. For 70 successive nights religious services were held in that theater, and such scenes of mercy and salvation as will be subjects of conversation and congratulation among the ransomed in glory as long as heaven lasts. But I come to a later time—1857—remembered by many who are here. I remember it especially as I had just entered the office of the ministry. It was a year of hard times. A great panic had flung hundreds of thousands of people penniless. Starvation entered habitations that had never before known a want. Domestic life, in many cases, became a tragedy. Suicide, garrotting, burglary, assassination were rampant. What an awful day that was when the banks went down. There has been nothing to equal it in 30 years, and I pray God there may not be anything like it in the next 30 centuries.

This nation in its extremity fell helpless before the Lord and cried for pardon and peace, and upon ministers and laymen the power from on high descended. Engine houses, warerooms, hotel parlors, museums, factories from 12 to o'clock, while the operators were resting, were opened for prayers and sermons, and inquiry rooms, and Burton's old theater on Chambers street, where our ancestors used to assemble to laugh at the comedies, and all up and down the streets, and out on the docks and on the decks of ships lying at the wharf, people sang, "All hail the power of Jesus's name," while others cried for mercy.

In the busiest marts of our busiest American cities, where the worshippers of Mammon had been counting their golden beads, men began to calculate: "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul." The waiters in restaurants, after closing their day's work, knelt among the tables where they had served. Policemen asked consent of the commissioner of Police to be permitted to attend religious meetings. Quarrymen knelt among the rocks. Fishermen knelt in their boats. Weavers knelt among their looms. Sailors knelt among their hammocks. Schoolmasters knelt among their classes. A gentlemen traveling said there was a line of prayer meetings from Omaha to Washington City, and, he might have added, a line of prayer meetings from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast, and from the St. Lawrence to the Gulf of Mexico.

That was 33 years ago, and, though there have been in various parts of the land many stirrings of the Holy Ghost, there has been no general awakening. Does it not seem to you that we ought to have and may have the scenes of power in 1857 eclipsed by the scenes of power in 1891? The circumstances are somewhat similar. While we have not had a national panic and universal prostration as in 1857, there has been a stringency in the money market that has put many of the families of the earth to their wit's end. Large commercial interests collapsing have left multitudes of employes without means of support. The racked brains of business men have almost or entirely given way. New illustrations all over the land of the fact that riches have not only feet, on which they walk slowly as they come, but wings on which they speed when they go.

Brethren in the gospel ministry! If we spent half as much time in prayer as we do in the preparations of our sermons nothing could stand before us. We would have the power from on high as we never have had it. Private membership of all Christendom! If we spent half as much time in positive prayer for this influence as we do in thinking about it and talking about it, there would not be secretaries enough to take down the names of those who would want to give in their names for enlistment. We would have hundreds of cases like those recently reported when a man said to an Evangelist: "I am a lost sinner. Pray for me. My wife has been a professor of religion for years, but I knew she did not enjoy religion, and I said if that was all there was in religion I did not want it. But for the last few days she has looked and acted in such an elevated and glorious spirit that I cannot stand it away from God. I want the same religion that inspires her." Come! Come! all through the United States, and all through Christendom, and all around the world let us join hands in holy pledge that we will call upon God for the power. Oh, for the power from on high, the power that came on Pentecost, yea, for ten thousand Pentecosts. Such times will come, and they will come in our day if we have the faith and the prayer and the consecration.

Many of my hearers to-day are what the world calls, and what I would call, splendid fellows, and they seem happy enough, and are jolly, and obliging, and if I were in trouble I would go to them with as much confidence as I would go to my father, if he were yet alive. But when they go to their rooms at night or when the excitements of social and business life are off, they are not content, and they want something better than the world can offer. I understand them so well I would, without any fear of being thought rough, put my right hand on their one shoulder and my left hand on their other shoulder, and push them into the kingdom of God. But I cannot. Power from on high, lay hold of them!

Years ago, at the close of a religious service in Brooklyn Tabernacle, a gentleman most distinguished in appearance and with remarkable cerebral development, came forward with his wife and daughter and said to me in a most courteous and elegant way: "Let me introduce you to my wife and daughter who wish some counsel in regard to religious matters," and the three sat down. After I had conversed with the wife and daughter, I turned to the gentleman and said: "Perhaps you have some interest in these matters?" "None whatever," was the reply, polite yet firm. But before the meeting had closed I saw his hand lifted to his forehead and his eyes closed, and I said: "Sir, have you not changed your mind, and are you not thoughtful on the subject?" He said: "I am; since coming to this seat, I have sought and found Christ and my Savior and I have but one desire more, and that is, before I leave this house to join my wife and daughter in making profession of the Christian religion. I have been known as on the wrong side long enough." What was it that had come upon him? It was power from on high.

But greater things are to beseen if ever these cities, and ever this world is to be taken for Christ. There is one class of men and women in all these assemblages in whom I have especial interest, and that is those who had good fathers and mothers once, but they are dead. What multitudes of us are orphans. We may be forty, fifty, eighty years old, but we never get used to having father and mother gone. Oh, how often we have had troubles that we should like to have told them, and we always felt as long as father and mother were alive we had some one to whom we could go. Now I would like to ask if you think that all their prayers in your behalf have been answered. "No," you say, "but it is too late, the old folks are gone now." I must courteously contradict you. It is not too late. I have a friend in the ministry, who was attending the last hours of an aged Christian, and my friend said to the old Christian: "Is there any trouble on your mind?" The old man turned his face to the wall for a few moments and then said: "Only one thing. I hope for the salvation of my ten children, but not one of them is yet saved; yet I am sure they will be. God means to wait until I am gone." So he died. When my friend told of the circumstances eight of the ten had found the Lord, and I have no doubt the other two before this have found him. Oh, that the long postponed answers to prayer for you my brother, for you my sister, might this hour descend in power from on high.

Good and gracious God! What will become of us, if, after having such a devout and praying parentage, we never pray for ourselves! We will pray. We will begin now. Oh, for the power from on high, power to move this assemblage, power to save Brooklyn and New York, power of evangelism that shall sweep across the continent like an ocean surge, power to girdle the round earth with a red girdle dipped in the blood of the cross. If this forward movement is to begin at all, there must be some place for it to begin, and why not this place? And there must be some time for it to begin, and why not this time? And so I sound for your ears a rythmic imitation, which, until a few days ago, never came under my eye, but it is so sweet, so sobbing with pathos, so triumphant with joy, that whoever chimed it, instead of being annonymous, ought to be immortal:

Thy sins I bore on Calvary's tree:
Thy stripes, thy dire, were layed on me,
That pain and pardon might be free—
O, wretched sinner, come!

Burdened with guilt, wouldst thou be blessed?
Trust not thy world; it gives no rest;
I bring relief to hearts oppress—
O, weary sinner, come!

Come, leave thy burden at the cross;
Count all thy gain but empty dross;
My grace repays all earthly loss—
O, needy sinner, come!

Come, hither bring thy boding fears,
Thy aching heart, thy bursting tears,
'Tis mercy's voice salutes thine ears;
O, trembling sinner, come!

THE GLASS COMBINE.

It Will Commence Operations on Large Scale.

The American Window Glass company will commence active business operations early in the new year. This decision was reached at a meeting of glass manufacturers, held at Chicago on Dec. 31. A large number of jobbers of the brittle were assembled in the corridor.

For weeks they have been living in suspense, uncertain as to the turn affairs would take. Many of the jobbers had invested largely in window glass, expecting to reap a rich return in the advanced prices which would follow their successful formation of the trust. Those who neglected to seize the golden opportunity were made happy by the favorable terms which the new company is prepared to extend to them. Buyers of 20,000 boxes of glass and over will be enabled to purchase at the minimum prices on the usual 60 days, with 80 and 10 off.

Purchasers of less than 20,000 boxes, down to the limit of 5,000 boxes, below which the company does not care to sell, will pay proportionately higher prices for window glass. This arrangement, as expressed by one dealer, gives capital a chance, and puts a stop to ruinous competition among manufacturers. The headquarters of the big new concern will probably be located at Pittsburg, with offices at Chicago and San Francisco.

News of the Week.

Under this head we aim to give a summary of all important events occurring within the week, in compact yet easily understood form, accompanied by such explanations as may be necessary to a perfect comprehension. We regard this as a feature of the greatest value to all our readers, and especially to the younger members of the family.

THE INDIAN WAR.

THEY ARE ALL SURROUNDED.

Gen. Schofield Talks on the Indian Situation.

A telegram from General Miles dated at Pine Ridge agency, on January 1, says that 8,000 Indians men, women and children, and including about 600 bucks — are "now encamped in a section of the Bad Lands about fifteen miles from the Pine Ridge agency, and there is almost a cordon of troops around them.

Gen. Miles announced that he hoped to be able to induce the hostiles to surrender without a struggle. The spot where they are encamped he describes as somewhat like the lava beds of California, where the Modocs made their final fight. It is an excellent position from an Indian standpoint, but there are now no avenues of escape, all having been closed by the troops.

Gen. Miles says the Indians have gathered some cattle and provisions and appear to be determined to make their fight for supremacy at this point. He says he will make another effort to get them back to the agency without bloodshed, and in order to do so he has established a regular siege around this stronghold.

Gen. Schofield said on January 2 that there is no truth in the report telegraphed from the West that Gen. Brooke had been relieved from his command at Pine Ridge. Gen. Miles, he added, has charge of the campaign and as it has progressed he has stationhd himself at the most convenient points for general communication with his forces.

At first he remained at Chicago, where he had almost unlimited means for telegraphing. Then he moved his headquarters west to St. Paul, and then to Rapid City, so as to get the quickest word possible to the whole body of troops moving in from all directions.

Finally, when the concentration has so far progressed as to bring the forces within a comparatively small compass, he has moved again to Pine Ridge and now has command, as before, of the entire body of troops, but at the point of concentration. This scheme, Gen. Schofield says, was rendered necessary by the conditions which required the congregation of forces from so many points.

ESCAPED CUSTER'S FATE.

A Cleverly Planned Massacre Narrowly Averted.

It is evident from the testimony of officers and men that the Seventh barely escaped the tragic fate of Custer in the battle of White Clay Creek, where the Indians had surrounded the mission. The troops had passed the Catholic mission and were dismounted in the big valley, one and one-half miles wide, just beyond the school.

At the end of this valley is a narrow canyon, not over 75 feet wide and 800 yards long, opening into a small, circular park. It was the object of the Indians to draw them into this small valley. The soldiers were getting ready to make a rush on foot for the top of the hill, when the cry arose that they were surrounded. Advancing now in one, now in another direction, on either side of the valley they found themselves opposed each time by from 200 to 300 Sioux.

Soon the hills began to swarm with 1,500 or 2,000 warriors, and in twenty minutes more the tragedy would have gone to the world, when the untiring Ninth rode in, as they rode before at the time of the Meeker massacre, attacking furiously the rear of the savage horde, scattering them in every direction. Before the enemy could rally from their confusion the boys in blue withdrew slowly and sullenly to Pine Ridge.

While the blizzard made the old men, women and children suffer, it will have little or no effect on the young bucks and warriors. It is believed that Little Wound's brain was the agency that planned and directed the battle, as it showed more generalship than has been displayed since Red Cloud's fighting days.

Old Red Cloud sent in a letter last night claiming that he was a prisoner and begging the soldiers to come and save him. This is corroborated by friendlies, who say that when the stampede took place Monday old Reds wife began to throw things into the wagons, and with true wifely spirit said she was for war and would go out on the bloody path even if her liege lord remained and fought on the other side.

Fight at Grass Creek.

Cheyenne hostiles made a rush upon a squad of Carr's Sioux scouts on Grass creek, Thursday night, Jan. 1, and killed several of them. Grass creek is a small and nearly dry stream, beginning eight or ten miles north of Pine Bidge, and runs about ten miles north, and empties in White river about eighteen or twenty miles north of Wounded Knee postoffice, the site of the battle of Dec. 29, and in the near vicinity of which Carr is reported as now in camp.

A number of minor reports such as are brought in by government employes stationed in various parts of the reservation, have come in to the effect that the country seems to be alive with squads of hostile scouts. As yet the authorities have been unable to get at the report regarding the cavalry horses in the hostile camp, though this report regarding an attack by Cheyenne hostiles seems to somewhat verify it, and indicate that soldiers were killed in the skirmish on Grass Creek.

It is definitely known that hostiles to the number of about 1,100 are fortified near the mouth of White Clay creek, and that Gen. Brooke with detachments of troops is swinging round north of them. Gen. Carr is supposed to be approaching from the West and Gen. Miles will make a dash from the south.

The force thus engaged is thought to be ample for the annihilation of the entire band unless some unforeseen complication or misfortune arises. Embassadors from this hostile camp have again been suing for peace and offering to surrender arms. It is not known here whether terms will be granted or not; but the general opinion prevails that in view of the actions of the rebels in slaughtering the troops while under the flag of truce, not much weight will be given their pretended repentance.

That the hostiles have been largely reinforced within the past few days, there is no longer any doubt, and there seems reasonable ground for rumors that some Indians from other agencies or the British possessions have joined them.

ARE STILL AT IT.

Indians Continue to Burn Buildings and Murder Settlers.

Number 2 and 3 day school buildings and Episcopal church, all located on White Clay creek a distance from Pine Ridge agency, were burned by hostile Indians on Jan. 3. Isaac Miller, a white man and former irregular employe on Beef herd, was killed by hostile Indians on Jan. 1, ten miles north of agency. About 3,000 men, women and children are camped near the mouth of Grass creek, 15 miles northeast of agency, who are hostile and refuse to come into the agency as requested by the military; are committing all kinds of depredations and living off our agency beef herd.

Little Wound, Big Road, Red Cloud and their people are among them, and it is reported they want to come into the agency, but Two Strikes, Short Bull, Kicking Bear and their people object and say they will kill the first one that starts to the agency. Report has it that Red Cloud is desirous of coming to his home."

A BATTLE IMPENDING.

A Fight that Will Settle the Present Trouble Expected.

A dispatch from Pine Ridge agency, dated January 5, says:

As to the situation here, considered in its entirety, the indications that the greatest battle in Indian history is almost at hand are increasing. The report of every scout adds new and strong support to these indications that were only emphasized by the bloody affair on Wounded Knee. Gen. Miles believes exactly this, and has said so in strong words. The small handful of Indian employes here affirm it vehemently.

Before the terrific clash comes they want to try and rescue their relatives from the enemy's camp, and are now interceding with the authorities for permission, at the risk of their lives, to make the attempt. These Indians in government employ also express the hope that they can induce many of those who were friendly before the Wounded Knee battle, and were remaining here according to instructions, also to come in and be saved from the certain annihilation that awaits them within the ranks of the hostiles. Extensive rifle pits are reported being dug twelve miles west of here by the hostiles, and the report is of a nature that the authorities rely upon its truthfulness.

Last night the hostiles burned many houses belonging to the settlers along the White river and finished killing the last remnant of the great herd of government cattle that they raided so heavily about a month ago, and have been drawing on ever since.

Without desiring to make the situation a particle darker than it really is, for God knows the truth is bad enough, everything constrains me to say that the danger in which Pine Ridge agency's white populace stand at this hour, and must remain until this crisis is all over, is one of the most fearful peril that can well be imagined. I say this not for a moment forgetting and knowing perfectly just what military protection we have here. Since Gen. Miles arrived he has received the most urgent admonition from the administration to avoid further bloodshed. Further bloodshed, however, cannot be avoided, and before the light of another Sabbath morning the truth of the assertion will have been proven.

The seriousness of the situation here is increasing. Short Bull, the leading hostile chief, who has distinguished himself all along during this trouble, by never for a moment considering any of the overtures looking to an amicable settlement, but who has steadily stuck to his lair in the Bad Lands, and his now assumed command of the great body of hostiles, last night told our spies that he would take this agency if it cost every warrior he had. Half breeds here have been informed by their friends and relatives, whom some of them have among the hostiles, that they better immediately move their families a long distance from the agency, as a great raid and massacre was certain.

The half-breeds are showing us what they think of this information by getting their families out of here with a rush. The government herder, John Dwyer and Issue Clerk Pugh, have both discovered through their Indian friends of years standing that a raid and massacre has been fully decided upon and maturely planned.

Gen. Miles is thoroughly conversant with all these facts, and himself says that our situation is exceedingly critical. There are less than 600 soldiers here now all told.

The party sent to Wounded Knee to bury the dead Indians returned late last night. They found and buried 84 bucks and 63 squaws and children. It was also found that five had been buried by the Indians. In addition to this total of 192, we have heard now and then of others who have been carried away by hostile scouts, etc., sufficient to swell the number of dead Indians, as a result of the battle of Wounded Knee, to fully 200, with several others yet to die in the improvised hospital here.

Major Whiteside, Col. Carr and Capt. Baldwin, the latter of the Fifth infantry, have been selected as a board of inquiry into Gen. Forsyth's case. The board will sit as soon as possible and these sessions will probably be open.

Women and Children Hurrying Away From the Indian Country.

A party of several women and children, who had just come in from the vicinity of Rushville, Chadron, Hay Springs, and other points, near the seat of the Indian trouble, were at the Union depot, Sioux City, Iowa, on January 4, night. One woman who came from Rushville, and was en route to her old home at Decorah, Iowa, said that all those in the party were sent away from Rushville because of the exposed condition of the settlements, and said that their departure was hurried by the fact that a band of fifty Indians had pitched their tepees within a few miles of the town. Their husbands remain at the front to attend to their property interests and to defend them if necessary. The woman also said that the settlers' families were all leaving the country and fleeing to places of safety.

FORSYTH SUSPENDED.

The Murder of the Indian Women to be be Investigated.

The report of the relief of Col. Forsyth of his command of the Seventh cavalry, by Gen. Miles, which was telegraphed East from unofficial sources, was confirmed at the War department on Jan. 5. The officials, however, show a decided disinclination to talk about the matter.

Neither Secretary Proctor nor Gen. Schofield are willing to say very much on the subject, although both practically admit that Gen. Miles did not act entirely upon his own responsibility. Secretary Proctor said to a reporter: "Gen. Miles did it. It is a very much mixed up matter and I may explain it later."

Gen. Schofield was rather more communicative. He said: "There is not much that I can say about it just now, but I am willing to explain as far as I can. It had been suggested, by a person whom I cannot mention, that it would be well to look into the matter of the fight on Wounded Knee creek the other day, inasmuch as the reports state that several Indian women and children were killed.

"Accordingly Gen. Miles, at a suggestion from here, relieved Col. Forsyth of his command pending an investigation of the circumstances of the fight, which investigation is probably now being conducted by Gen. Miles. I have as yet received no official information from Gen. Miles about the matter, and all I know about what he has done is what I have seen in the newspapers. I expect a report from him soon. Yes, the general management of the fight is also to be looked into, but the particular point in question is the death of the women and children."

It is surmised by some officers that the person who "suggested" the investigation is the president whose suggestions as to the army have all the weight of orders.

A Supply Train Attacked by a Band of Roving Indians.

The following are the particulars of another engagement which took place near Wounded Knee Creek, on Jan 5: A detachment of 30 men had been sent out from the camp to meet a wagon train with supplies for camp, and when ten miles out the wagons were found besieged by a band of 100 Indians.

On seeing the troops approaching the redskins scattered in all directions, but immediately returned to the attack on finding the small number of men in the detachments. A courier was sent back to camp for reinforcements, but in the meantime an incessent fire was kept up on both sides, resulting in the wounding of one soldier and the killing and wounding of several Indians, the exact number of which could not be ascertained, as the reds carried their dying and wounded away. About three hours after the courier's departure troops were seen coming at full gallop to the rescue. As the troops rode up the Indians scattered in all directions, and troop F pursued them, but abandoned the chase on account of darkness. The wagon train was escorted to camp in safety.

Oklahoma May Have Trouble With Her Indians.

The orders telegraphed from military headquarters to Capt. Woodson, of the Fifth cavalry, to disarm the Indians in the Cheyenne and Arapahoe country have created the greatest anxiety among the settlers in Oklahoma and on the borders of Texas and general disgust among the troops.

The Indians of the Southwest reservations are peaceable enough now, and those who know the nature of the red men see in the proposed disarmament a menace to the continuance of the comparative quiet which now exists. The ghost dancing is of a mild character. Taking away their arms will, it is feared, have the effect of arousing a spirit of resistance now dormant.

Over 3,000 Indians Thirsting for the Gore of the Pale Face.

The 3,500 Indians on the Turtle Mountain reservation are liable at any moment to inaugurate a massacre of settlers living along the North Dakota borders. This and of redmen, among whom there is a large number of half breeds, have been ugly for a long time and they have several times given trouble.

The immediate cause of the present trouble, outside of the general unrest among the Indians in all parts of the Northwest, is the failure of the U. S. commission to remove the Indians of the Turtle Mountain reservation to White Earth, Minn., to which point they asked to be sent. Commissioners Hoyne and Mahone were sent here by President Harrison early in December, but they remained only one day. They distributed several hundred dollars worth of presents, but refused to recommend the desired removal. Settlers are in a disturbed state of mind over the alarming situation and have sent a protest to Washington against leaving this band to menace the people.

BEHRING SEA.

War Vessels Put in Commission—Shall We Fight?

Comment is aroused among navyofficers over the series of orders emanating from the Navy department, within the past few weeks, directing the commissioning of war ships at San Francisco and the ordering of various other cruisers to Pacific waters.

Underthe present orders, no less than eleven war ships and five revenue cutters will soon be in commission on the Pacific and ready for duty. If, in addition, the rumored chartering and arming of seven steamers for revenue cutter duty in Behring sea proves correct, the United States naval force will number 23 ships, against the five British gunboats and one armored vessel at present protecting Great Britain's interests in the North Pacific. It is now asserted that the Yantic will be sent from New York to the Pacific. This will increase the above force by still another vessel.

Already there are six war ships at San Francisco, the cruisers San Francisco; Charleston, Swatara, Marion, Alert and Thetis. On the Central American coast the Ranger is within call. At Honolulu and Samoa, ready to proceed to San Francisco as soon as ordered, are the corvettes Mohican and Iroquois. At Sitka, Alaska, is the Pinta. Scattered along the Pacific coast and all within reach of the telegraph, are four revenue cutters. The Omaha left China Dec. 12 for San Francisco. She is expected to arrive in February. Should the Yantic be ordered to the Pacific as rumored, she should reach San Francisco during the same month. Aside from the Omaha and Yantic, it is calculated that ten war ships are now in position for mobilization at San Francisco inside of 40 days. Six war ships are ready for immediate work.

In view of the present Behring sea controversy and the rumored chartering of seven steamers for revenue cutter duty, the above disposition is deemed ominous. As the fishing season does not begin earlier than May, the concentration of the twelve war ships can be effected before the revenue cutters are ready to proceed to the Behring sea.

It is believed the whole United States force in the Pacific will then be concentrated off Port Townsend.

A Washington special says that those persons who are interested in the Behring sea controversy have read with some concern dispatches from Europe, which intimate that the British fleet is to be complemented in the North Pacific by the fleet of the German empire.

The dispatch says that this does not appear improbable to any one who has been aware of the persistency with which Great Britain and Germany have operated in the Pacific. Intimations are heard here that the Navy department is proceeding in a way to indicate a determination to meet this display of English and German force by an increase of the United States fleet in the west coast and by an immediate concentration of available vessels at San Francisco. Exactly what the fleet will be expected to accomplish at this time is not asserted, and we are from verifying the report, the naval officers who have been asked about it appear to be in absolute ignorance concerning the whole business.

The Behring Sea Correspondence.

The President transmitted, Jan. 5, to the House of Representatives further correspondence on the subject of the Behring sea controversy between the United States and Great Britain. The President's message is altogether formal, and merely states that in response to the resolution of the House of Representatives he transmits the correspondence called for. A letter from Secretary Blaine also accompanies the correspondence, but it is purely one of transmittal. The correspondence transmitted by the President is made up of two very long letters and a number of enclosures comprising treaties, notes and extracts from previous correspondence which, Secretary Blaine says, conclude the correspondence touching the fur-seal question up to date, the substance of which has been printed in these columns.

The Behring Sea Dispute Wears a Very Unpleasant Aspect.

The London *Standard* of Jan. 5 referring to the Behring sea dispute, says that it "Wears a very unpleasant aspect. Even the possibility of a rupture between England and America cannot be mentioned without feelings of deep regret. America may count upon receiving the full measure of courtesy, patience and firmness which England has already displayed. But Mr. Blaine will do well to bear in mind that firmness will be commensurate should the moment arrive for its exercise, with the patience and courtesy with which he has so far been treated.

"He seems extravagantly anxious to put himself wrong. Mr. Lincoln cannot too soon on his return devote himself to ascertain the plans of our foreign office and communicating them to his government. There is not a person in England but would hear it proposed with profound regret that shots should be exchanged between British and American vessels except in courtesy. But it would excite greater regret to hear that the British flag had been insulted and the national honor not vindicated by prompt reprisals.

"But we can never believe that the American people will suffer its public servants to force a conflict by wanton outrage upon our flag. We will gladly bow to the tribunal of international law, but not to the nod of Mr. Blaine. We trust that he will not persist in menace, which is certain to be resented and resisted."

The *Pall Mall Gazette* of Jan. 5 says: "The case for arbitration in the Behring sea dispute is so clear, Lord Salisbury's offer is so ample, and the feeling in America in favor of arbitration is so general and strong that it seems necessary to look for Mr. Blaine's motives for his warlike attitude elsewhere than in the merits of the case. That the American people would deliberately prefer a policy of exaggeration, and would sooner embark in a fratricidal war with England than submit to arbitration is too silly and absurd to need a moment's consideration. It is clear that Mr. Blaine speaks not for the nation, but for his party; that he means bluff and plays to the anti-English gallery. It is earnestly to be hoped that the good sense and moderation of the American people will speedily make themselves heard. Even a paper warfare between the two great families of the same race would be a blunder—a crime."

The *St. James Gazette* of Jan. 5 says: "There is no reason for alarm or to anticipate a rupture. Mr. Blaine's political party is at low water mark and resorts to the old device of 'twisting the British lion's tail.'"

The English Foreign Office Speaks—More Comment.

The British foreign office, on January 6, issued the following communication to the press in regard to the Behring sea dispute: "The statements cabled respecting the correspondence on the Behring sea question between the British and American governments are unfounded. A dispatch was received December 30 from Mr. Blaine. He made proposals respecting questions to be submitted for arbitration. With this exception, no communication whatever has been received from the United States on this subject for the past three weeks, and no communication has been made to the American government in the same period.

The *Globe* says that it attributes the friction to Mr. Blaine's "bragging spread eagleism" and it is of the opinion that "In view of a possible, though unlikely American display of force, in Behring sea, Great Britain ought instantly to strengthen her Pacific squadrons."

The *Globe* also advocates the settlement of all the matters in dispute by means of arbitration.

WASHINGTON NEWS.

THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.

The Status of the Measure and a Review of the Most Important Clauses.

The present flurry in the money market, and the number of people who have been embarrassed, has had the effect of bringing the Torrey bankruptcy bill more forcibly to the attention of Congressmen than anything else possible could. It was passed by the Hous of Representatives July 24, 1890; it has been favorably reported for passage by the Judiciary Committee of the Senate, and will, if the demands of the people from all sections are heeded, be considered during the present session."

The provisions of the bill are, in brief, as follows:

United States District courts have original jurisdiction, but state courts may try controversies involving property rights.

Referees are to be appointed and their territories assigned by Circuit courts at a time when the District judge is on the bench.

Trustees will be appointed by the creditors.

The referee shall cause an expeditious and economical administration of the estate, and return the records into the court.

The trustees shall reduce the estate to cash and distribute it in dividends to the creditors as soon as possible.

A $10 fee shall be paid to the clerk when the petition is filed as his entire compensation in the case.

The government shall receive 1 per cent on dividends paid by estates and half that amount on dividends paid in composition.

The trustee shall receive from the estate 5 per centum on the first $5,000 paid out in dividends, 2 per centum on the second $5,000, and one per centum on additional amounts.

The referee shall receive not to exceed $1,000 per annum and a $10 fee in each case. Both amounts together with his expenses are to be paid by the government.

The number of referees shall be one for each judicial district, and such additional number as may be necessary to expeditiously transact the business of the court, not to exceed 330.

Acts of bankruptcy shall consist of (within six months of the filing of a petition of bankruptcy) concealment to avoid the service of civil process, removal of property to prevent its being levied upon, departure or absence with intent to delay or defraud creditors, failure for thirty days to secure the release of property levied upon, making a conveyance with intent to defraud or delay creditors, making a written declaration of insolvency, making an assignment, procuring a judgment, or suffering a judgment with intent to defraud or delay creditors, suffering an execution to be returned unsatisfied, suspending and not resuming payment of commercial paper for 30 days, voluntarily petitioning to be adjudged a bankrupt, making a conveyance or suffering property to be taken while insolvent for the purpose of giving a preference, or dealing in options while insolvent.

A person who owes $500, except a national bank or a municipal corporation, may become a voluntary bankrupt.

A person who owes $500, except a national bank, a farmer, a municipal or religious association, or a wage-worker, may become an involuntary bankrupt.

Compositions may be confirmed after, not before, the bankrupt has been examined in open court or at a meeting of creditors, and after the filing of the schedule of assets and list of creditors. The court will not confirm the composition unless it is for the best interest of all the creditors, and unless the bankrupt has not been guilty of any acts which would prevent his discharge. They will be set aside within six months after being made, in the event fraud was practised, upon the hearing for confirmation.

A discharge will be granted to a person, not a corporation, when applied for after two and within six months after the adjudication, unless it appears that the bankrupt has failed to keep proper books of account, committed a felony, committed perjury, failed to act in good faith, given a preference which has not been surrendered, knowingly made a false statement to secure credit, bribed any officer of creditor, fraudulently transferred property which has not been surrendered, or neglected his duties as a bankrupt. The discharge will be set aside within two years after being granted upon proof that it was fraudulently obtained.

The exemptions of a bankrupt shall be the same as are provided by the laws of the state in which the proceedings are pending at the time of the filing of the petition.

Preferred creditors are those who have, within four months before the filing of a petition, procured property from an insolvent with intent to defeat the operations of this act, to obtain a greater percentage than other creditors, or to prevent the property from coming to the trustee in bankruptcy. If a preference has been given, the property or the value thereof may be recovered by the trustee.

Debts which have priority are those which are due as taxes when the property is subject thereto. Other debts having priority are, the clerk's fee, the percentage fees, the cost of administration, wages due employes according to the laws of the state, and debts which have priority under the laws of the United States.

Dividends shall be declared and paid of an equal percentage on all allowed claims of the same class as soon as possible.

Liens obtained by compulsory process within four months before the filing of a petition in bankruptcy shall be dissolved by an adjudication. Liens given prior to an adjudication in good faith, and not in contemplation of bankruptcy and for a present consideration, shall not be affected by the act.

Provisions are made for filing petitions; the issuance and return of process; the making of adjudications by the court, or, in the absence of the judge, the transfer of the case to the referee; the taking of appeals and issuance of writs of error; the arbitration or compromise of controversies; the examination of bankrupts and other persons concerning the affairs of the bankrupt; jury trials; notices in newspapers; taking oaths; making rules, forms, and orders by the Supreme court; computation of time; the giving of bond by referee and trustees; punishment for contempt; the punishment of crimes committed by persons, bankrupts, and officers; the death of trustees or bankrupts; the collection of bankruptcy statistics; the qualification of referes; the manner of keeping records of referees; the arrest of the bankrupt and the seizure of his property; the giving of notices to the creditors; the filing of petitions against bankrupts; the proof of claims; liquidating unliquidated claims; the qualification of voters at meetings of creditors; investment of cash in certain cases; the designation of depositories for funds; the disposition of unclaimed dividends; set-offs, counter claims, and the transmission of the bankrupt's title to property."

FROM THE CENSUS.

Interesting Figures on Farms and Farm Mortgages.

Superintendent Porter, of the census Bureau, has submitted to the secretary of the Interior, a report of the operations of the bureau for the past six months. On the subject of the apportionments of Representatives in Congress, Mr. Porter said:

"I have also the honor to call your attention to the fact that the apportionment of representatives in Congress was the census office to have the official returns of the population ready on the convening of Congress. If the apportionment bill, which has passed the House of Representatives, should pass the Senate and become a law, the apportionment under the eleventh census would be about two years earlier in time than any heretofore made."

On the subject of farms, homes, mortgages, etc., Mr. Porter said:

"The work accomplished by this division up to date may be briefly stated as follows: Number of counties in which complete abstracts have been made, 2,775; number of counties in which abstracting is unfinished, 71; total number of counties in the United States, 2,132; number of counties in which supplemental work must be done, owing to incompleteness of abstracters, 17; number of mortgages for which abstracts have been made, 8,515,513; estimated number of mortgages for which abstracts are yet to be made in counties that are not to be reabstracted, 87,430; number of mortgages recorded in the United States during the ten years ending December 31, 1880, rough count and estimate

WASHINGTON CHAT.

There is no material change in the condition of Senator Hearst.

The bill to increase the pay of non-commissioned officers of the army has been favorably reported to the House.

The bureau of American Republics is informed that the government of Canada has decided to establish commercial agencies in Mexico, Brazil, the Argentine Republic and Chili.

The President has directed the transfer of the military reservation of Fort Gibson, I. T., and the military reservation of Fort Crawford, Col., to the secretary of the Interior for disposition under the law.

The secretary of the Interior, under date of January 3, 1891, has approved the instructions submitted by the commissioner of the general land office, under the railroad forfeiture act of September 20, 1890.

Representative Bland, of Missouri, has offered in the House a resolution, which was referred to the committee on Rules, setting apart Monday, January 12, for the consideration of bills reported from the committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures

Senator Allen has introduced a bill making an appropriation of $700,0 0 for the construction of a dry dock at Port Orchard, Washington, the point selected by the commission appointed by the President for that purpose. The bill also appropriates $50,000 for the purchase of the site.

By authority of the President, the military reservation of Greenwood Land, Miss., deeded to the United States August 2, 1858, by Jacob Baptiste and wife, has been transferred and turned over to the secretary of the Interior for disposition.

It has been ascertained that over twenty thousand stamped envelopes have been stolen from the government stamped envelope agency in Hartford, Conn., and sold, by one Day, a former employe of the agency. The contractors will make the loss good to the government.

Senator Reagan struck the first blow in behalf of the Democratic senators against the cloture resolution by giving notice of several amendments intended to be proposed by him to the resolution when it is taken up for consideration. The general effect of the amendments is to enlarge the opportunities of the minority to prevent adoption of cloture.

President Harrison with the assistance of Postmaster-General Wanamaker and Gen. Whitfield, the first assistant postmaster-general, is making an investigation into the recent killing of J. H. Matthews, postmaster at Carrollton, Miss. Among the applicants for the place when Mr. Matthews was appointed was a Miss V. A. E. Doss, who in her application for the office states that her brother was at one time postmaster at Carrollton and "died for his Republicanism."

COAL PRODUCTION.

Superintendent Porter Figures on the Pennsylvania Field.

Superintendent Porter has issued a bulletin showing that the total production of anthracite in Pennsylvania during the calendar year 1889 was 40,665,152 tons of 2,240 pounds, valued at the mines at $65,718,-165, or an average of about $1.77 per ton, including all sizes sent to market. The quantity reported by the transportation companies as actually carried to market, which is the usual basis for statistics for shipments, was 35,407,710 tons. The average number of days worked during the year 1889 by all colleries was 194. The number of persons employed during the year was 125,229, the total wages paid being $59,152,124.

FREE COINAGE.

The Treasury Department Sustains the Action of the Officers of the Mint.

Mr. E. O. Leech, director of the mint, said on January 5 that he had received copies of the correspondence between Supt. Bosbyshell, of the Philadelphia mint, and Messrs. Morse and Merrick, of Denver, in the matter of the silver brick presented by the latter with the demand that it be coined free. Mr. Leech said that the department fully sustained the superintendent in his refusal to accept the silver on the terms proposed as being strictly in accord with the law.

The Financial Bill On.

The action of the Senate in displacing the elections bill with the financial bill, on Jan. 5, was a complete surprise to the friends of the former measure, and several of the Republican silver senators who voted for the motion say it was without prior knowledge on their part. So far as can be learned the arrangement to displace the elections bill was not definitely effected until some time after the Senate met, though there had been some quiet consultation prior to to-day on the subject. It is understood that Senators Stewart and Teller were the principal movers in the scheme. The matter was kept so quiet that the Idaho Senators even did not know what motion was to be made. Senator Shoup says that he was told not to go away; that something of interest to silver was to take place, but says he did not know just what it was that was going to happen. The Democrats are rejoicing over the displacement of the elections bill and think it has received its death blow.

The financial bill must now be displaced by a direct vote, and has the advantage heretofore occupied by the elections bill. It has right of way.

He Shook Their Hands.

The public reception of the President on New Year's Day, was attended by 2,000 people, including many school teachers from New York, New Jersey and New England states on an excursion to Washington. The scene in the great east room was animated. The President shook each visitor's hand.

Congress.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—The Senate discussed the Federal elections bill and adjourned to Friday. House not in session.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—Neither House in session.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—Both Senate and House met and adjourned to Monday.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Neither branch of Congress in session.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—In the Senate the elections bill was laid aside and the financial bill taken up and discussed

In the House no business was transacted of general interest.

GENERAL NEWS.

POLITICS AND PENSIONS.

General Fairchild Says the Soldiers Are Satisfied.

General Fairchild, ex-commander-in-chief of the G. A. R., says the veterans are satisfied with what the present administration has done for them. "I have heard to the contrary, and also that with the treatment they have received at the hands of the present administration they are very much disgruntled. But that is not so. It is true there may be individual cases—but doubtless the failure to secure some public office, for which diligent effort has been made and no little expectation of success aroused, is the cause."

"And will no further legislation in their behalf be asked?"

"No. What more could be desired than the disability bill? By it everybody who served three months during the war, and received an honorable discharge, under that bill, provided he is unable to work, is entitled to, and will receive upon application, a pension of from $6 to $12 per month. And where injuries have resulted from the war, larger pensions are granted."

"The amount paid out in pensions now is somewhere about $135,000,000, is it not?"

"I am not certain. But it doesn't matter how much is paid out so long as the demands of justice are satisfied."

MONTANA LEGISLATURE.

The Democrats Victorious in Organizing the Two Houses.

The second legislature of Montana convened on Jan. 5 in Helena. The senate and Republican house organized in rooms provided by the governor. The Democratic house hired a public hall and organized there. Officers were elected as follows:

Senate—John J. Wallon, chief clerk; P. Miles Finlaw, sergeant-at-arms.

Republican house—A. C. Witter, speaker; Benjamin Webster, chief clerk; S. N. Nicholson, sergeant-at-arms.

Democratic house—H. R. Comley, speaker; Charles Z. Pond, chief clerk; Charles F. Beardon, sergeant-at-arms.

The Democrats have a majority of four in the Senate, and at once recognized the Democratic House. Governor Toole, being a Democrat, recognized them, and sent in his message to them.

Ex-Senator Wadleigh Ill.

Hon. Bainbridge Wadleigh, ex-Senator from New Hampshire, is lying very ill at the residence of his son-in-law, in Boston, with kidney disease.

GEN. F. E. SPINNER,

The Celebrated Ex-Treasurer of the United States Dead.

Gen. F. E. Spinner, ex-treasurer of the United States, who has been ill at Jacksonville, Fla., for many months died at 8 o'clock on the evening of Dec. 31.

[Francis Elias Spinner was born in German Flats (now Mohawk), N. Y., January 21, 1802. He was carefully educated by his father, a minister, who required him to learn a trade, and apprenticed him to a confectioner in Albany, and afterward to a saddler in Amsterdam, N. Y. He engaged in trade at Herkimer, N. Y., in 1824, and became deputy sheriff of the county in 1829. He was active in the militia organization, and by 1834 had reached the grade of major-general. In 1837-38, he was sheriff, and in 1838-39 commissioner for building the state insane asylum at Utica. When he was removed from this post, on political grounds, he became cashier of a bank at Mohawk, of which he was afterward president for many years. He held various local offices, was auditor and deputy naval officer in the naval office at New York in 1845-49, and in 1854 was elected to Congress as an anti-slavery Democrat. He served on the committee on Privileges and Elections, on a special committee to investigate the assault made by Preston Brooks on Charles Sumner, and on a conference committee of both houses on the army appropriation bill, which the Senate had rejected on account of a clause that forbade the use of the military against Kansas settlers. Gen. Spinner was an active Republican from the formation of the party. He was twice re-elected to Congress, serving altogether from December 3, 1855, till March 3, 1861. During his last term he was chairman of the committee on Accounts. When the Lincoln administration was organized, Secretary Salmon P. Chase selected him for the post of treasurer, which he filled under successive Presidents, from March 16, 1861, to June 30, 1875. When, during the war, many of the clerks joined the army, Gen. Spinner suggested to Secretary Chase the advisability of employing women in the postoffices, and carried into effect this innovation, though not without much opposition. He signed the different series of paper money in a singular handwriting, which he cultivated in order to prevent counterfeiting. On retiring from office he went South for the benefit of his health, and for some years has lived in Florida.]

EMMA ABBOTT DEAD.

The Famous Singer Has Closed Her Eventful Career.

Col. John T. West, of Minneapolis, on Jan. 5 received a telegram stating that Emma Abbott died at Salt Lake City at 7:40 that morning. The body will be embalmed and sent to Chicago. Her father, Seth Abbott, who lives at Minneapolis, will go to Chicago.

Eugene J. Wetherell, the husband of Miss Abbott, died in Denver two years ago.

[Away back in the sixties Clara Louise Kellogg came to Toledo to sing at White's hall. She stopped at the Oliver house, and while there Miss Emma Abbott, then a girl in her teens, asked permission to see Miss Kellogg, which was readily granted. Miss Abbott had come here from Tecumseh, Mich., especially to see Miss Kellogg. She had a banjo with her, and played and sang before the great prima donna, who was greatly pleased, and, being a very tender-hearted woman, after little Emma had told her story, and her wish to strive for a higher station in life, Miss Kellogg determined to have her sing from the stage at White's hall. W. W. Whitney also interested himself in her behalf, and the little lady sang so sweetly and so acceptably that the audience was greatly delighted. Miss Kellogg and Mr. Whitney at once took her under their care, and Emma went to New York city, where she became the pupil of a special teacher. Miss Kellogg kept a careful eye on Miss Abbott's training in music, and she rapidly rose until the reputation of Emma Abbott became world-wide.]

REACHED THEIR BODIES.

Miners' Remains Entombed Since March 3 Brought to the Surface.

A ghastly sequel was enacted on Dec 31 to the frightful disaster which occurred in No. 3 shaft of the Lehigh and Wilkesbarre coal company at South Wilkesbarre, Pa., on March 3. On that date an explosion set fire to the mine in which were imprisoned eight miners.

Repeated and desperate efforts were made to rescue the unfortunate men but it was not until the above date that the point where the men were buried was reached.

The Victims Buried.

One of the most solemn and impressive scenes ever witnessed in Wilkesbarre, Pa., was the burial of the eight victims of the South Wilkesbarre mine disaster on January 1, All that was left of the unfortunates was conveyed to the Hanover Catholic cemetery in eight hearses, followed by a long cortege of relatives and fellow-workmen

A Dispatch Denied.

Recently a press dispatch from Portland, Oregon, stated that Major R. H. Hendershot, who tacks the phrase "drummer boy of the Rappahannock" to his name, had been arrested in that city. The Portland *Oregonian* says the trouble was a personal one between Hendershot and C. W. Knowles, that Knowles has apologised, and all is serene. THE BLADE has been requested to make the denial of the dispatch, which it, in common with many other papers, published at the time.

Garfield—Newell.

Miss Helen Newell, daughter of President Newell, of the Lake Shore road, and Mr. James A. Garfield, a son of the late President Garfield, were married on Dec. 30, at the residence of the bride's parents, in Ontario street Chicago. Rev. Dr. Tuckerman, of St. James Episcopal church, officiated. About one hundred guests were present, including Mrs. Garfield, widow of the dead President The happy couple left over the Lake Shore road for Mentor, O., where they will pass the honeymoon.

A Negro Colony.

The Rev. B. T. Foster, colored, who was a candidate for auditor of state of Kansas on the People's party ticket, has come from Kansas City with twenty families of colored people, from Kemper county, Mississippi, en route to Hennessey, Oklahoma. These families number about 100 people.

Kickapoos Are Dancing.

The Kickapoo Indians began a ghost dance on their reservation near Hiawatha, Kansas, on Dec. 28, and have been at it ever since. One of their number fell dead with exhaustion on New Year's day. No trouble is expected to result from their fanaticism.

Kalakaua Will Return.

The visit to this country of King Kalakaua, of the Hawaiian islands, will terminate sooner than was expected. The king's health has been much improved since his arrival. It is his intention to return to Honolulu during the first week in January.

Minnesota Deadlock.

The caucuses of Jan. 6 could effect nothing through their conference committees, and no result is probable from the balloting for officers of the Minnesota House of Representatives. A deadlock of several days is among the probabilities.

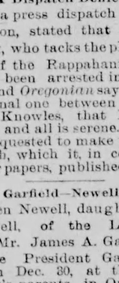
New French Loan.

It is officially announced that the new French loan of $89,000,000 francs, in perpetual threes, will be issued January 10. The issue price will be 92f., 55c.

Granted an Advance.

The firemen of the Western New York & Pennsylvania road have been granted an advance of over 10 per cent in wages.

ROYAL



BAKING POWDER

Absolutely Pure.

A cream of tartar baking powder. Highest of all in leavening strength.—*U. S. Government Report, Aug. 17, 1889.*

IMPORTANT LEGISLATION

Proposed by the Farmers in the Kansas Legislature.

More important legislation will be submitted to the Kansas legislature this month than ever before in any one session in the history of the state, and it will be of a character that will command the widest attention. All bills originating with the alliance are to be thoroughly discussed in that organization and will have its approval before introduced.

A legislative committee appointed by the state Alliance, has been at work for several weeks, drafting laws which it has submitted to the sub-alliances of the state for suggestions and amendments. Sixteen of these have been acted upon and have the general endorsement of the sub-alliances, and will be introduced with the understanding that they are to have the united support of Alliance representatives.

They are for the extension of the stay law, for a period of two years.

A redemption law giving the mortgagor three years in which to redeem land not exceeding 320 acres, sold under foreclosure.

Revision of the chattel mortgage laws.

A law requiring the mortgagee to pay his proportionate part of taxes.

A reduction of the rate of interest to 6 per cent, straight, with penalty of forfeiture of principal and interest for its violation.

A revision of the assessment and taxation laws.

A reduction of the salaries of public officers.

A reduction of state printer expenses.

School books to be published by the state and furnished to people at cost.

Revision of court officers' fee bills.

Adoption of the Australian system of voting and the Crawford county system of primaries.

A law requiring railroad commissioners to be elected by the people.

A law prohibiting alien ownership of land.

A law requiring land sold under foreclosure to bring the amount of judgment and costs.

A law suppressing the Pinkerton detective, or similar organizations, in the state.

Such a reduction of railroad tariffs as will yield an annual income exceeding 6 per cent on the actual investment.

OHIO FARMERS

Liable to Become the Catspaws of Laborite and Greenbacker Politicians.

A determinened effort will be made by outsiders to capture and control the convention of the Ohio Farmers' Alliance, which meets at Galion on the 20th inst., and unless the agriculturists are wary they will get into a bad box.

A call has been issued for a convention of the Knights of Labor at the same place, on the same day, and now it is known that the Greenbackers are to take a hand.

A secret circular has been sent to the members of the Alliance throughout the state, asking them to select delegates who will vote for Charles Jenkins, of Mahoning county, or Dr. Kagy, of Seneca county, for President. Jenkins and Kagy are both Greenbackers, and they doubtless know the existence of the circular. The former has been a member of half a dozen different parties. In 1887 he was a member of the State Executive Committee of the Union Labor party, and now he wants to be the head of the Farmers' Alliance. The farmers as a class do not know Jenkins snd Kagy, but those who do are afraid of them, and are opposed to turning the organization over to politicians.

THEY WANT ANOTHER CHANCE.

British Yachtsmen Anxious to Try Again for the American Cup.

Lieut. William Henn, of the Royal Navy, accompanied by his wife, reached New York on Dec. 31, on the steamship Umbria. Lieut. Henn is the owner of the English cutter yacht Galatea, and with that racer tried for the American cup in 1888 against the champion Mayflower, which beat the foreigner right handily.

He said: "I am authorized to go before the New York Yacht club and inform its committee that a challenge will be sent if the only objectional clause of the deed of gift is removed—that as to measurement. That clause is too binding and confines designers to the narrow lines. The Earl of Dunraven would have challenged last season and raced on his own responsibility if the Royal Yacht Squadron had permitted him. But that organization would not. I honestly believe the Valkyrie the superior of any 70-foot yacht in this country. Still, she is no match for the Volunteer. I am anxious to race again for the American cup if a fair chance offers. Both sides need another race for the cup. The conditions for the new Royal Victoria Yacht club contain all my ideas for a challenge cup, and the American cup should show the same conditions."

MINERS IN CONVENTION.

An Interesting Convention Now in Session in Cheyenne.

The third day of the mining convention at Cheyenne, Wyo., on Jan. 2, was one of increased interest and attendance. Col. A. C. Fisk, of Denver, Chief Justice Groesbeck, of Wyoming, and Hon. I. S. Bartlett, addressed the convention in the afternoon on subjects pertinent to the occasion and in the evening ex-Governor J. W. Hoyt addressed a large audience upon railroads as a factor in the natural development of Wyoming, which was well received, followed by Hon. E. A. Stack, editor of the *Daily Sun*, of this city, on gold hunting in South Pass. Mr. Stack paid a glowing tribute to the convention and the man who had made it the success that has attended the meeting. J. F. Crawford, of Carbon county, addressed the convention upon the precious minerals of Carbon county, devoting his remarks to Gold Hill, the late find in his county. The convention will adjourn this evening. The result will be most important to the new state.

HON. LEO WELTZ DEAD.

A Well-Known Republican Party Worker Passes Away.

Hon Leo Weltz died at his home near Wilmington, Ohio, on January 1. Mr. Weltz was by birth a German, and had been a colonel in the Prussian army. In 1807 he was elected superintendent of the fruit department of the state fair and has been connected with the state board of Agriculture ever since. In 1876 he was elected a member of the board. He was a prominent member of the State Forestry bureau, the National Forestry congress and the State Horticultural society, and was one of the best known and best informed horticulturists in the country. He was appointed a member of the state board of Public Works by Gov. Foster to fill an unexpired term. He was an ardent Republican. The funeral will occur to-morrow.

Gov. Boyd is Not a Citizen.

C. A. Searle, of Omaha, is in Zanesville, Ohio, presumably in the interest of the Nebraska Republican state committee, looking up records of the naturalization of Joseph Boyd, father of Governor-elect Boyd of Nebraska. The investigation is said to have shown that the father never took out final papers till last year, and that therefore, Governor Boyd who was born in Ireland, came to this country at the age of 10, and was never naturalized, hence is not a citizen of the United States.

Smallpox on the Border.

For some months past an epidemic of small-pox has been raging along the Texas and Mexican borders, as well as in several towns in the interior of Texas. Advices from San Antonio, Tex., state that on Jan. 2 the Mexican government took the matter in hand, and sent a corps of physicians to Ciudad Porfirio Diaz, across from Eagle Pass, to vaccinate the people and isolate those stricken with the dread disease.

Cared for by the Indians.

Capt. Perry and crew of the American schooner Dare, wrecked on Vancouver island Dec. 20, reached Victoria, B. C., Jan. 2, being brought by post Indians in canoes. The Dare left San Francisco for Tacoma Dec. 8. The ship broke in two on the rocks; the captain and the crew lashed themselves to the centerboard box and drifted ashore in an exhausted condition, where they were kindly cared for by the Indians.

Justin Pettigrew Dead.

Justin A. Pettigrew, a brother of U. S. Senator Pettigrew, died at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, on December 21. Senator Pettigrew is much incensed at the Christian Scientists who attended the sick man.

DISASTROUS BLAZE.

Fifth Avenue Theater, New York, and Other Buildings Destroyed.

Just after the close of Fanny Davenport's Cleopatra, at the Fifth Avenue theater, New York, on the night of Jan. 2, an alarm of fire was sounded. What was at first believed to be a false alarm, proved to be one that destroyed a whole block upon Broadway, besides the Fifth Avenue theater, Hermann's new play house, a dozen stores and threatened the Sturtevant House on the east side of Broadway, between Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth streets.

The fire had been burning less than half an hour before the flames shot through the roof, causing the wildest consternation among the guests of the Brower house, on the northeast corner, and the Sturtevant house. The shower of sparks which covered the pavement of Broadway also set fire to the awnings of the latter. To add to the confusion, there were six explosions in the Fifth Avenue theater, which blew the blazing rafters skyward, and these set fire to the roofs of the buildings surrounding the burning theaters. While the firemen were powerless to do anything towards saving the playhouses, they worked nobly in preventing the destruction of houses in the vicinity of the immense blaze.

All the property burned belongs to the Gilsey estate, and the total damage to the building and its contents is roughly estimated at $500,000. Manager Harry Minor was early on the scene, as was also Prof. Hermann. While the former saved nothing from the wreck, the professor and his wife worked like beavers. Mrs. Hermann saved her four pet doves, but her husband sorrowfully said that his favorite trick apparatus worth $20,000 was lost to him forever.

A careful estimate of the fire places the total loss at $567,000, more than half of which falls upon the insurance companies. Never in the history of the fire department of this city were the members called upon to battle with such fierce flames. So far there is no positive explanation given of the origin of the blaze. There is a supposition, however, that a cigar thrown carelessly away while still burning was the cause. Then again it is said that there was some smoke seen in the Fifth avenue theater during the evening which could not be accounted for, but this Mr. Minor positively denies.

DEMOCRATS IN CONTROL.

Wisconsin in the Hands of the Bourbons Once More.

The government of Wisconsin on January 5, passed again into the hands of the Democracy, for the first time since Governor W. R. Taylor stepped down and out on the 8d of January, 1876, and Harrison Ludington was sworn in.

The assembly chamber was jammed with people who took every opportunity to give vent to their enthusiasm. There was a burst of applause when Governor-elecf Peck, followed by the other state officers, all accompanied by the outgoing officers, entered and took their seats in the semi-circle. Lieut. Gov. Kyland was the only absentee of the outgoing officers. Ex-Congressman Burr W. Jones, of Madison, escorted the lieutenant governor-elect in the place of Mr. Kyland. Chief Justice Cole and Mayor Bashford occupied the speaker's desk. Mayor Bashford stepping forward, announced that the time had arrived to administer the oath of office to the officers-elect, and invited George W. Peck to come forward and be sworn in. The latter advanced with Governor Hoard, and Chief Justice Cole administered the oath in the usual formula. After Governor Peck had stepped down, the lieutenant governor took his place and was sworn, and so on through the list. During the impressive ceremonies the audience maintained quiet. When Mr. Hunner was brought in the crowd in the gallery raised a cry hurrah for John Hunner When Attorney General O'Connor ascended to take the oath another outburst of applause went up, and the university boys raised the college yell—"Wis-con-sin-Rah-rah-rah."

The ceremony occupied about five minutes, after which Mayor Bashford addressed the audience, announcing the reception and the ball to follow. Then the band in the gallery played, and the big audience slowly flocked from the big hall.

COLLIDED IN A FOG.

The English Channel the Scene of Disaster.

During a dense fog which prevailed over the British channel during the night of January 8, a disastrous collision between steamships occurred off Dungeness. From the reports of the affair received here, the collision resulted in the foundering of one of the steamships.

It would appear that the oil-laden steamship Caronine, Robert de Massey, from Bartoum to Antwerp, was sunk within a short distance of Dungeness, forming the southern extremity of the coast of Kent. The Carolina, it appears, was feeling her way up channel through the fog, and at the time of the accident is said to have been under an easy head of steam.

Suddenly, and without warning, a steamship, said to be the Raithwaithall, appeared off the Caroline Robert de Massey's beam and struck the latter fairly amidships, sinking her in a very short time. Luckily the sea was calm and her crew managed to lower the boats and reached Dover in safety.

Can Work on Sunday.

In the county court at Pittsburg on January 3, Judge Stowe handed dow an opinion on the pumping of oil wells on Sunday, that has long been undecided there. The suits were brought by the law and order society, but were dismissed by the judge who maintained that the pumping of wells on Sunday was an absolute necessity, since salt water generally ruins a standing well. This completely knocks out several local judicial decisions.

Scheme of Missouri Farmers.

The Farmers' Alliance of Missouri is taking steps to compete by co-operative manufacturing with the $35,000,000 consolidated American Harvester company, of Chicago. A movement is now on foot to establish a binder factory in that state, the necessary capital to be raised by subscription, and the plant to be run on a co-operative basis. The scheme is being pushed with decided vigor.

Too Severe for the Cattle.

There are over 100,000 head of cattle belonging to the Cherokee Live Stock association, in the southwestern counties of Kansas, moved there from the strip. They are preparing for a mild winter only, and the owners say only a few days cold weather will bring about an almost total loss.

A Whole Family Dead in Three Weeks.

Mrs. George Bain, near Irwin, Pa., arose at 6 o'clock on Jan. 2, and drowned herself in a well. Three weeks ago her lovely young daughter went crazy. This drove her husband insane and he died in a madhouse here December 30, and now the last of the family committed suicide, all within three weeks.

Alphonse Payrat Dead.

Alphonse Payrat, the French author and senator, died Jan. 2. He was born June 21, 1812, at Toulouse.

EVERY SKIN AND SCALP DISEASE, of whether torturing, disfiguring, humiliating, itching, burning, bleeding, scaly, crusted, pimply or blotchy, with loss of hair, from pimples to the most distressing eczemas, and every humor of the blood, whether simple, scrofulous or hereditary, is speedily, permanently and economically cured by the CUTICURA REMEDIES, consisting of CUTICURA the great SKIN CURE, CUTICURA SOAP, an exquisite Skin Purifier and Beautifier, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, the new Blood and Skin Purifier and greatest of Humor Remedies, when the best physicians and all other remedies fail. This is strong language, but true. Thousands of grateful testimonials from infancy to age attest their wonderful, unfailing, and incomparable efficacy.

Sold everywhere. Price, CUTICURA, 50c.; SOAP, 35c.; RESOLVENT, $1. Prepared by Potter Drug and Chemical Corporation, Boston, Mass.

Send for "How to Cure Skin and Blood Diseases."

Pimples, blackheads, chapped and oily skin prevented by CUTICURA SOAP.

Rheumatism, Kidney Pains and Muscular Weakness relieved in one minute by the CUTICURA ANTI-PAIN PLASTER. 30c

IRELAND'S POOR.

What Balfour Discovered on His Recent Visit.

The earl of Zetland viceroy of Ireland and Chief Secretary Balfour have signed a declaration which has been issued on the condition of the poor in the western part of Ireland. The declaration says:

"Povey is chronic in some districts and will, if the people are not aided, reach a stage of acute distress during the winter and spring. There is neither a resident gentry nor a substantial middle class to give employment, nor are there charitable organizations to aid those who are unable to aid themselves. Outdoor relief, except in cases of emergency, cannot legally be administered except to persons holding over a quarter of an acre of land. Although none acquainted with the history of the Irish poor law would regard the relaxing of this rule as other than a public calamity, its maintenance undoubtedly limits the capacity to deal with periods of exceptional distress. The position thus created leaves a part of the social organism sick at all times—stricken with a disease from which, without extraneous help, it has no power to rally.

"The question is not whether money ought to be given, but how it ought to be given, to what classes and for what special purposes. Charity ill-administered injures the recipients everywhere, but is especially injurious in those parts with which we are concerned. Elsewhere the injury may be confined to a class relatively small, but in the worst portions of the congested districts the whole community may be affected.

"In regard to the failure of the potato crop, small occupiers in the West seem, at first sight, all to live much in the same way. They are lodged in the same cabins, cultivate the same kind of holdings, and are clothed with the same kind of dress. It would be natural to conclude that in all places where the failure of the crop is the same, the distress is the same. But such is not the case. In no district does the bulk of the community live wholly on the potato. Every district has means of livelihood independent of the cultivation of the potato, such as fishing, labor in England, cottage industries, kelp making, and sales of farm stock. The degree of the failure of the potato crop is, therefore, by itself, a misleading guide to the degree of distress existing among the people. Other elements in the finding of the position of the people are the amount of their savings and their debt and credit with local tradesmen. Furthermore, in the organization of any plan of gratuitous assistance, caution is necessary in order that it shall not interfere with the system of railway relief works. Several thousands of pounds weekly are already distributed in the form of wages in the districts most in need.

"Those getting wages through work ought not to get charity without it. The conclusion that we come to is that smart table aid ought to be confined first, to families which are in circumstances want and which, having no able-bodied person among them, cannot derive benefit from the public relief works; second, to providing meats in the schools for children attending them, and third, to supplying clothes for children unable to procure them elsewhere. These forms of assistance are less liable to abuse than others."

NEWFOUNDLAND.

The People Excited—They Talk of Entering the Union.

Mail advices received at Halifax, N. S., on January 3 from Newfoundland indicate that the excitement and indignation over England's renewal of the *modus vivendi* with France are still rife. The opposition press are printing dialogues representing the national representatives in conference with the British ministers, and holding the former up to ridicule.

A telegram from Placentia says: "Yesterday's *Public News* announces the deplorable fact that the infamous *modus vivendi* has been agreed to between France and England for another year. The telegraph office was beseiged yesterday an anxious and indignant public to ascertain if the report was true. Crowds assembled near the post-office and in the strongest terms condemned this treacherous action. Many suggested to pull down from the court house, the flag of England that had been sailed under for so many years and to hoist in its stead the Stars and Stripes and appeal to America for protection. The governor will be urged to call a meeting of the legislature and condemn in the strongest terms the cowardly act of Premier Whiteway in consenting to a renewal of the *modus vivendi*."

Parnell Wants O'Brien to Lead.

It is understood at Dublin that Mr. William O'Brien, M. P., has cabled Mr. John Dillon, M. P., now in New York, that Mr. Parnell consents to retire if Mr. O'Brien is made leader of the Irish party. It is further understood that the Boulogne conference adjourned in order to await Mr. Dillon's reply to this cable message.

Will Marry Mrs. O'Shea.

The Dublin *Insuppressible*, the organ of the McCarthyite faction of the Irish party, says: "Mr. Parnell wants no vindication resulting in the annulment of the O'Shea divorce. He intends to marry Mrs. O'Shea when the divorce is made absolute."

Is Home Rule Dead?

The London *Daily Telegraph* (conservative) in its issue of Jan. 3, invites the followers of Mr. Gladstone to recognize more fully the distasteful fact that home rule for Ireland is defunct.

TELLS A PECULIAR STORY.

A Boy Seeks Police Protection in Chicago.

George Frank Maler, aged 10 years, appeared at Chicago police headquarters on January 3. He says he is from St. Thomas, Ont. His story is to the effect that his father was the owner of a paper mill and a farm in the vicinity of St. Thomas; that he died leaving him to the care of Hiram Charles, the family butler; that one day shortly after his parent's death, a man and woman came to the house and took possession of it, saying that they were the king and queen of Canada. In May last they sent him to Toledo and told him not to come back. Since then he has stopped at various places, finally reaching Chicago where he says he has relatives.

DELICATE MEASUREMENTS.

Changes in the Length of Bars of Metal Figured to Millionths of an Inch.

In the physical laboratory of Colby university, Waterville, Maine, on January 2. Edward L. Morley, of Adelbert college, Cleveland, and Prof. Wm. A. Mogers, of Colby university, succeeded in measuring, by means of wave lengths of light, the changes in the length of bars of metal caused by radiation of the temperature. A machine constructed by Prof. Rogers for the special purpose was employed, and changes in length were measured in millionths of an inch. The experiment has hitherto been untried by physicians.

Ten Thousand Men To Be Idle.

At a meeting of the furnace owners of the Shenango and Mahoning Valleys, at Youngstown, Ohio, on December 31, it was unanimously decided to shut down the 23 blast furnaces in that district on January 10, and not resume operations again until the railroads and coke operators concede their demands for lower freight rates and a reduction in the price of coke. Nearly 10,000 men will be thrown out of employment by the shut-down.

A New Magazine Gun.

J. N. Archbold, of Danville, Ill., has invented a magazine gun. The weapon is six four-foot rifle barrels, and is fed by a chain belt. The number of shots that can be fired in succession is practically unlimited.

M. S. Cooper Dead.

Admiral Mason S. Cooper, of the Haytien navy, the eldest son of Rear Admiral Geo. H. Cooper, U. S. N., died of erysipelas at his home in Brooklyn on Jan 8, 48 years.

Daniel Clarke Dead.

Hon. Daniel Clarke, one of the most prominent characters in the political history of New Hampshire, died quite unexpectedly at Manchester, N. H., Jan 2. He was 81 years old.

CHARGED WITH CRIME.

Kansas City Councilmen Placed in a Bad Light.

The specali grand jury impanelled for the purpose of investigating charges of bribery against members of the city council of Kansas City, Mo., has found indictments against the following persons: Fred M. Hayes, speaker, and a member of the lower house of the council; Dennis Bowes, member of the lower house, and Louis Irvine, attorney for the Eleventh Street Incline Plane company. The indictments against Councilmen Hayes and Bowes are for offering to accept a bribe. The indictment against Irvine is for offering to give a bribe.

The charges made against the members of the lower house of the council which led to the investigation resulting in the indictments, originated with the projectors of the Eleventh street incline plane and grew out of their failure to get a franchise ordinance passed by the council after having purchased ground for their terminals and made all other arrangements in the expectation of getting the franchise. The chief backer of this enterprise was Thomas Mellon, a banker of Pittsburg, Pa., and his agents in Kansas City were Lewis U. Irvine, his attorney, and W. A. Mellon, his nephew.

TO FIGHT THE COMBINE.

St. Louis Butchers Want No Syndicate Dictation.

Quite a stir has been created among the large butchers of St. Louis, by the recent publication of the purpose of Messrs. Armour, Swift & Morris, of Chicago, and Hammond, of Baltimore, to acquire control of the National stock yards of East St. Louis and St. Louis, respectively. Mr. Mat Courtnay, one of the largest butchers of the city, admits the local butchers are going to give the big packers the cold shoulder.

"It is a fact," said he, "that we have decided to build an abbattoir, where we can handle cattle as cheaply and as advantageously as the large concerns in the land. Our plant will cost about $100,000 and will have a capacity of 200 beaves and as many hogs per day.

"No matter what the big four say or do, our scheme of building an abbatoir will be carried out."

KANSAS CROPS.

Winter Wheat Reported in Fine Condition—Snow Aided the Farmer.

Reports have been received by Secretary Mohler, of the Kansas agricultural department, from correspondents in nearly every county in Kansas, showing that the winter wheat crop is in a fine condition. The heavy snow of the past week came just in the right time, and Secretary Mohler believes it has improved the condition of the crop 20 per cent. In Salina, Reno, McPherson, and other great wheat counties the average is larger than ever before. In the western part of the state there was danger of damage by the Hessian fly, but Secretary Mohler says that the excessive precipitation of moisture in the past week saves the crop from the ravages of the fly.

MINNESOTA FARMERS.

Donnelly's Platform Adopted—An Exciting Session.

At the session of the Minnesota Farmers' Alliance on Jan. 1, considerable miscellaneous business was attended to, resolutions adopted and a new constitution acted upon. It was a warm session with hot debates and sharp decisions on the part of the president. A resolution to endorse the Ocala platform was heavily defeated and the subject of sub-treasuries was ignored in the regular resolutions, while the Conger lard bill was endorsed. Early in the session the new constitution was defeated, but a little before midnight, after an exceedingly warm session, that action was reconsidered and the new constitution, which is the codification of the suggestions of President Donnelly, was adopted.

Argentine Wheat.

Recent reports from the Argentine Republic show that the exports of wheat to Europe for the year 1889 are very much larger than any previous year. The exports for the first quarter of the year 1890 were greater than the exports for the entire 12 months of 1889.

Finance and Trade.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

THE CLOSED YEAR.—Except for the financial flurry of the last three months the year 1890 was a more prosperous one in every way, than was 1889. For the first nine months, the year 1890 gave smaller totals, both for the number of business failures and for liabilities, than the same period of the previous year. The financial strain of the last three months was severe enough to reverse all this, and the total of liabilities is much greater, and that of failures slightly greater, than for 1889.

But the new year opens under very promising conditions. Failures are still frequent, and this frequency will probably continue during January; but up to this time they have not been conspicuous either for the standing of the firms or the calamitous nature of the results. Besides that, the disasters have been scattered through all industries, no more abundant in one than in another, showing that although the money strain has been remarkably severe, it has been incapable of disclosing general insolvency in any department of trade.

MONEY.—The condition of the money market in New York for the past week was very gratifying. It was anticipated that there would be a spasm of more or less severity connected with the preparations for the first of January payments. On the contrary the market was not as active as it usually is towards the close of the year. Bankers and foreign houses were liberal lenders on call. Consequently, although the demand was almost daily sufficient to carry the rate to 8 and 9 per cent, the offerings later in the day were liberal enough to cause a decline to 3 per cent; for the week the average was probably not more than 5 per cent, at which renewals were made. The minimum of bank and trust companies for call money continues at 6 per cent. There have also been more liberal offerings of time money. The quotation is still 6 per cent for from four to six months; but the demand is not urgent, as borrowers are expecting lower rates after the January interest and dividend payments are made.

STOCKS.—The tone of the stock market has very decidedly improved. In fact, a rising tendency manifested itself all through the list, and the market has quite a buoyant aspect. The anthracite coal stocks have moved upward on reports of an improved condition of the coal trade as a result of the colder weather which has thus far prevailed the present winter, while the general market has advanced as the result of easier money and considerable buying both for investment and speculative account. HENRY CLEWS says:

One cause of the improvement is the important fact that about $123,000,000 of interest and dividends is payable at the beginning of January. An unascertained but undoubtedly large portion of these payments is always devoted to reinvestment, which creates a special demand for bonds and the better class of stocks at this season. Ordinarily, this demand is forestalled by speculative buying early in December; but this year that buying has not been forthcoming; and prices having consequently had no advance from this